

STATE OF THE

**On the Bus
Montana artists head
to Jackson for Tour of
Excellence**

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November/December 2012

Montana - The Land of Creativity

Providing information to all Montanans through funding by the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of Montana

MAC NOTES



Jackie Parsons, chair of the Montana Arts Council, received the Community Spirit Award at the First People's Fund award ceremony, Oct. 4 in Minneapolis.

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Artist Gathering

Montana artists network and learn in Kalispell

By Cindy Kittredge

Folk Arts and Market Development Specialist

Over the final weekend in September, 75 Montana artists involved in MAP (the Montana Artpreneur Program) attended the Artist Gathering 2012 at Flathead Valley Community College in Kalispell. They shared their art with the public, networked with each other, and learned more about the business of art from a number of professionals, including New York City's Creative Capital group, an organization nationally recognized for its training and support of artists across the country.

Participating artists came from towns large and small across Montana. The weekend provided them with the opportunity to get to know other artists from throughout the state and to begin the process of building collaborative relationships.

"This is an incredible opportunity for all of us interested in developing Montana's creative economies," said Arni Fishbaugh, Montana Arts Council executive director. "Through support from LINC and the USDA and because Creative Capital received special funding, we have been able to shape this kind of event to help artists showcase their art and learn more about the business of art, while giving them the opportunity to network and share information."

The Artist Showcase and Sale opened Friday, Sept. 28



Bitterroot Valley glass artist Stephanie Smith talks to a prospective customer during the Artist Showcase and Sale.

with a reception hosted by Flathead Valley Community College. This showcase, which featured all artists and represented a rich range of media, continued all day Saturday, Sept. 29. Artwork included art quilts, watercolor, oil and acrylic paintings, art glass, hand-bound books, silver, brass, stone and beaded jewelry, hand-thrown pottery, hand-painted silk scarves, metal, glass, stone and clay sculptures, art dolls, photography, paper and kites, hand-spun and dyed fiber, hand-woven tapestries, embellished gourds and ledger art.

This event was designed to introduce artists and their work to galleries, architects, interior designers and the general public from across the state. The public had the opportunity to purchase art and to interact with artists, learning more about the creative process and the work.

At a Saturday night dinner, held to honor the MAP artists and their work, the following seven artists were awarded MAP Certificates of Market Readiness: Deb Essen, a handweaver from Victor; textile artist Louise Barker, metal artist Karen Chesna, and watercolorist Linda Christensen, all from Kalispell; quilt artist Kelly Bort, and oil painter Linda Katsuda, both from Whitefish; and Angelika Harden-Norman, a photographer and digital artist from Browning.

See Artist Gathering on page 5

Big anniversary for Big Productions

By Kristi Niemeyer

After 25 years of organizing the largest rural performing arts series in the state, Chas and Margie Cantlon have a bundle of memories to share.

Prior to one show, a Broadway performer offered a class to members of Ronan's Show Choir. She sang, accompanied only by a piano, with no microphone, "yet her voice was in their laps," says Margie. "The kids were leaning forward, just blown away."

And for Lake County Youth Home, a facility for kids who are estranged from their families and whose residents benefit from the series' proceeds, the concerts have delivered unexpected blessings.

The artists often have dinner with the kids before the concert, allowing residents to become "part of the 'in' crowd and get attention they don't typically get," says Cantlon.

He remembers one youngster who was trained by a tech person to manage the light board for a concert. "His future opened up that night," he says.

Residents have also learned "to go, sit in the audience and pay attention." The concert series "has changed the



Margie and Chas Cantlon celebrate the 25th anniversary of the largest rural performing arts series in Montana.

culture of the Youth Home," he adds. "It blends with our mission beautifully."

The series got its start in 1987, after a board member of what was then the Folkshop suggested offering

concerts to raise funds for the organization, which served developmentally disabled people in the Mission Valley. "We wanted to be able to give people something back for their money," recalls Cantlon, who was the Folkshop executive director.

That previous summer, the members of the Montana Band were killed when their plane crashed into a hill above Flathead Lake. "In the aftermath, and rising out of the dust of that tragedy, was Rob Quist (a former Montana Band member) and Great

Northern," says Cantlon. "I said, to be taken seriously, we need to talk to Rob, who was then living in Colorado."

After several efforts to connect, Quist showed up at the Folkshop in Ronan. "I hear you were looking for me," he told Cantlon.

See Big Anniversary on page 21



Hamilton scientist, adventurer and author Jon Turk has collaborated with Weber Dance Company of Boston to create a mixed dance and storytelling event, "Synchronicity and the Sacred Space."

The piece debuts in Montana at 7 p.m. Nov. 10-11 at the Downtown Dance Collective in Missoula; Nov. 14 at the Hamilton Performing Arts Center; and Nov. 16 at the O'Shaughnessy Center in Whitefish.

Turk, a world-renowned traveler, has kayaked the Arctic multiple times, as well as navigated Cape Horn and the Solomon Islands, explored Siberia on cross-country skis and reconnected indigenous coastal communities in Eastern Russia with those of the interior who still practice traditional reindeer herding.

"Jon's work as an explorer is staggering and his stories from the Kamchatka Peninsula tell a provocative tale of both the tragedy of deep cultural loss and the beauty of alternative ways of perceiving/living in the world," writes choreographer Jody Weber.

More than a year ago, the choreographer joined forces with the explorer to create an evening-length performance that documents portions of Turk's experience through both movement and spoken word.

When it premiered last October, the piece was rated as "one of Boston's 10 Best Fall Dance Events" by the *Boston Phoenix*, and was a Critics' Pick of the *Boston Globe*.

Visit www.weberdance.com for details.

ARNI'S ADDENDUM

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director
afishbaugh@mt.gov



"What I Have Learned" Blog

For this issue of Arni's Addendum, I wanted to share some inspiration from national colleagues drawn from "Barry's Blog" in his "What I Have Learned" series. The author is Barry Hessenius, the former director of the California Arts Council.

I have excerpted his post due to space restrictions, but have included several that I found of particular relevance to us here in Montana. Thought it was a great way to close out the year!

Thanks to Barry for coming up with this sterling idea! To subscribe to Barry's Blog, go to blog.westaf.org.

— Arny Fishbaugh

The "What I Have Learned" Blog

Posted Sept. 30, 2012

I have been thinking lately about what I have learned over the past 15 years that I have been involved in the nonprofit arts field; about the lessons driven home by experience and time, and how little I really knew, or understood, when I first started in this fascinating, yet relentlessly challenging, arena.

I have been wondering what are the basic lessons that I have learned that, were someone to ask, I might pass on (particularly to those coming up behind me). What might I say that would be helpful to the next generation of leaders (or to anyone really) and that might save them time and heartache?

Could I synthesize it into a couple of pieces of advice? Would it make any sense?

And that got me to thinking about how much more others across the field have probably learned over their long tenures working in our sector than I have. So I thought I would do a blog on that. The "What I Have Learned" blog.

I invited 24 colleagues to share the most important lessons they have learned; to pass on some of the knowledge that they might wish someone had shared with them when they were still coming up through the ranks.

Specifically, I asked:

What have you learned that you can pass on to the future leaders of our field? What one or two big pieces of advice can you give based on your experience that you think would most help our future leaders in their career development and in doing their jobs well? Here then are some of their responses:

Randy Cohen, Vice President of Research and Policy, Americans for the Arts:

1. One person can start a movement. In tough economic times, no pushback from the arts community is low-hanging fruit for budget cutters. Pack your city council chambers with supporters and incorporate our secret weapon – arts, music, and poetry. It will be a public hearing nobody will forget.

2. Great leaders are great advocates – for their industry and for themselves. Advocacy can be boiled down to three questions: What's the message? Who gets the message? Who delivers the message?

3. Inspired audiences will take action. Be a great speaker. Data alone won't cut it ... add a story to bring the message alive. Practice, be yourself, use humor, and go easy on the PowerPoint text.

4. You can do a bounty of good if you are willing to share leadership and credit. Everyone wants to be on the team that is doing the right thing.

5. Change is a constant condition. When faced with multiple choices, lean towards the one you fear most – that is usually where the greatest treasure is buried. Be brave!

6. We are in the people business. Help others get what they need, and others will help you get what you need. Don't forget what Mom told you: say please and thank you, be on time.

7. Learning never ends. Fuel your brain with industry knowledge with the vigor of a squirrel gathering nuts for winter.

8. There is much to be grateful for. Start the day writing a couple short thank you notes. Go old school ... pen, paper, stamped envelope.

9. When on the road, drink lots of water, don't eat too many cookies, and carry your presentation materials with you.

10. Folks love Top 10 lists.

Michael Alexander, Executive Director, Grand Performances:

"When the sea rises, all ships rise with it." Devote part of your work time and your personal life to the causes that will benefit our field and our world. Your professional life and

the perfect." Don't let analysis paralysis stop forward motion. Recognize that there are many right answers.

"You cannot be leader unless you challenge people to do something." I heard that line in the animated film "Chicago 10" when one of the activists told a colleague why he was not a leader.

"Quick, cheap and good – pick two." Mid-size nonprofits don't have the luxury of deep pockets enabling them to throw money at problems. And mid-size nonprofits don't want to settle for anything less than good. So that means we need to give ourselves adequate time to plan, prepare, recruit, manage and assess the many projects we undertake.

Robert Booker, Executive Director, Arizona Commission on the Arts: Know that your work life and personal life will blend at times, and find a way to manage that mix in a healthy way. Develop a positive balance between your personal principles/goals and your professional responsibilities/challenges. Remember that all work worth doing is worth doing well.

Celebrate your successes and those of others every moment you can. Have fun every day and when you can't find joy in your work ... find another job.

Always accept new responsibilities in your current position. Don't expect an immediate reward for expanding your workload or pitching in to cover a position. In the end, you will be more knowledgeable about your organization and will be recognized as a leader and team player. The rewards will come later in your career with your organization, others and the field.

Remember to give credit to your teammates when they have worked on a project or supported your action with their skills and send handwritten notes to folks that help you every day along the road. Help others reach their goals when you can. Never speak ill about people you work with.

Learn the history of the non-profit and for-profit arts industry. Be familiar with the successes and the challenges our field has faced over the years. Learn from the work your colleagues are doing in other communities and countries. Serve the people you see outside your window.

Treat money as if it were time and time as if it were money ... you can always make more money, but time is fleeting. Try to give back as much as you get as you work in this field. Always tell the truth. Take responsibility for your actions and don't fear failure.

Have a GREAT week. Don't Quit.

— Barry

STATE OF THE ARTS

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The Cultural and Aesthetics Advisory Committee was hard at work during a recent review of the FY14-15 Cultural Trust grant applications. Shown here (back row, left to right): Laura McCann, Ed Noonan, Bob Valach, Surale Phillips, Jon Axline, Peter Rudd, Benjamin Clark, Sean Chandler and Penny Redli. Front row: Mark Ratledge, Ann Cogswell, Anne Grant, Diane Sands, Elizabeth Guheen and Ken Egan.

CONGRATS TO ...

Arni Fishbaugh, executive director of the Montana Arts Council, who was listed among the "50 Most Powerful and Influential People in the Nonprofit Arts" on Barry's Blog, written by Barry Hessenius and hosted by the Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF). The fifth annual listing – noted by the author as "far and away the most popular of my postings" – is compiled annually from submissions by arts leaders around the nation. Fishbaugh was nominated by Janet Brown, the executive director of Grantmakers in the Arts, who praised her for "a 'someone's doing it, why not us?' attitude that drives innovative programming for Montana." Fishbaugh is currently chair of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and serves on the Grantmakers in the Arts board of directors. She was a past board member of the Association of Arts Presenters and WESTAF. According to Brown, "Arni's leadership exemplifies the passion she has for the people of her home state with their beautiful western culture and the savvy of a respected arts leader who understands how national opportunities and trends can benefit her constituents. She successfully combines strategic thinking with natural collaborative instincts. Arni does this all with grace and charm, gently bringing legislators, governors, artists, council members and the general public along for a successful ride." Find the complete list at blog.westaf.org.

Hamilton artist **Jerry Crandall**, who is profiled in the November issue of *True West* magazine, in a feature titled "Artists We Love." The story emphasizes Crandall's devotion to historical accuracy and his passion for portraying the authentic Old West. "Tracking down primary sources, including diaries, letters and Indian ledger art, is part of the thrill of historical background research," he told reporter Allison Carlton. He also places himself in real-life scenarios to help him re-create the past: "I want to know what it feels like to take part in a cavalry maneuver riding in a fully packed McClellan saddle, to hear the clatter of the horse equipment and be in the field for days with very little water and food ...," he says. In the same issue, Crandall praises Whitehall sculptor **Rick Terry** under a section titled "Up-and-Comers" as "a phenomenal sculptor whose pieces are anatomically correct, historically accurate and have a great sense of design." In addition, *Cowboys and Indians* magazine will profile Crandall in an upcoming issue. Works by the artist are on display at Costanza Artisan Gallery in Hamilton.

The **Archie Bray Foundation** and **Capital High School** in Helena, which were chosen to design and create 24 ornaments for Montana's tree for the 2012 National Christmas Tree display in President's Park in Washington, DC. The Bray's resident artists will team up with Capital's advanced ceramics students to create handmade ceramic mugs, carved, decorated and glazed to reflect the holiday season in Montana. "It is an honor to be selected to represent the great state of Montana and we are excited to be a part of the National Christmas Tree display," said Steven Young Lee, resident artist director of the foundation. "It has been a wonderful opportunity to connect with students in our community who are interested in the arts and to participate in the holiday festivities at the White House."

Gardiner-based sculptor **George Bumann**, whose bronze sculpture of a moose, titled "Emergence," recently received the Beverly Hoyt Robertson Memorial Award for work by young sculptor at the National Sculpture Society's 79th Annual Exhibition at Brookgreen Gardens in South Carolina. This marks the second consecutive year he's received this honor. His sculptures may be viewed at www.georgebumann.com.

Glenn Gilmore of Gilmore Architectural Blacksmith Studio in Hamilton, who won the award for "Best Artist – Metal" at the 20th annual Western Design Conference (WDC), Sept. 6-9 in Jackson, WY. Chosen by a panel of five expert judges, Gilmore's recognition came with a check for \$1,000. The award was announced at the conference's live Fashion and Jewelry Show, held at the Jackson Hole Center for the Arts. "If you could see the stunning quality, not only of Glenn's work, but that of dozens of his peers also exhibiting at the show, you would understand that this award is a big deal," said event manager Allison Merritt. "Believe me, our judges had a tough job on their hands." Featuring more than 100 master American artisans, individually juried for acceptance, the WDC's show and exhibit attracted hundreds of collectors, interior designers, scholars, architects, fashion designers and others with a passion for western design. The annual event is hosted by *Teton Home and Living* magazine.

Great Falls artist **Brenda Wolf**, whose work was on display Sept. 3-Oct. 28 at the Clymer Museum in Ellensburg, WA, in a show titled "Wild Life." Wolf paints larger-than-life portraits of animals as diverse as bald eagles, polar bears, grizzly bears, bighorn sheep and horses. The artist, who attended Syracuse University and earned a bachelor of fine arts from the School of Visual Arts in New York City, has taught painting at Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls, and has won numerous awards for her graphic designs.



True West feature on Jerry Crandall

Bozeman artist **Christine Joy**, who has been juried into the Bellevue Arts Museum's Biennial, "High Fiber Diet." The exhibit, on display Oct. 25-Feb. 24 at the museum in Bellevue, WA, aspires "to recognize the innovative and extraordinary work being produced by contemporary Northwest makers, and to celebrate the region's distinctive character." Joy is displaying willow vessels that she says "explore the movement of air ... I construct my baskets to appear as if they are moving, growing and animated, as though the shapes had been cut from a tree or pulled from moving water."



"Small Dark Cloud" by Christine Joy

Billings artist **Neil Jussila**, who had eight paintings from a set titled "Meditations" exhibited Sept. 6-Oct. 12 at the William and Florence Schmidt Art Center at Southwestern Illinois College in Bellevue, IL. In addition, 33 of his paintings from a new series titled "Musings on a Pictograph Site in South Central Montana" are on display through early November at the Memorial Hall Gallery at Chadron State College, NE.

Bigfork artist **Nancy Cawdrey**, whose work appears in several shows this fall, including "Western Visions," Sept. 1-23 at the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson, WY (the artist also participated in the Jackson Hole QuickDraw Art Sale and Auction on Sept. 15); the Buffalo Bill Art Show and Sale, Sept. 21-22 at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, WY (and a Quick Draw Sept. 22); and the Collectors' Reserve: Small Works Art Exhibition and Sale, Oct. 20-Nov. 4 at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, OK (along with Montana artists **Marshall Noice** and **Kevin Red Star**). She also has paintings in the Small Works, Great Wonders Winter Art Sale, Nov. 16 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, OK.

Bozeman artist **Howard Friedland**, who has had three paintings selected so far this year in RayMar Art's sixth annual Fine Art Competition. "Bull Market" was a finalist in July; "Le Bateau au Repos (Boat at Rest)" was a June finalist; and "Quiet Reflection" was chosen in April. Jurors select and critique 12 finalist paintings each month, Dec. 1, 2011-Nov. 30, 2012. At the end of the 12 months,

the Final Juror of Awards selects 12 paintings from the 144 finalists and awards \$26,500 in cash prizes. RayMar Art sells supplies for artists online and from its store in Phoenix, AZ.

Artist **Kendra McKlosky** of Emigrant, whose works were included in the Summer Juried Show, on display Aug. 1-Sept. 1 at the Sylvia White Gallery in Ventura, CA.

Great Falls resident **Annabelle Howard**, who recently won a nationwide art contest sponsored by SunBridge Healthcare for her handmade turquoise jewelry. Howard, 68, lives in the Lodge Retirement Care Center. Mike Masters, the facility's administrator, told the *Great Falls Tribune* he'd never submitted a resident's piece to the competition before, "but we could see her talents." The Lodge received a \$300 grant from SunBridge to buy items for the activities room. In addition to her jewelry, Howard makes cards with pressed flowers, sews, paints and uses charcoal. After two strokes, the retired real estate manager says making crafts keeps her mind off the dialysis she undergoes three days a week. "I spend a lot of time on the crafts I do, and it makes me happy," she said.

— *Great Falls Tribune*, Sept. 20, 2012

Lois Red Elk, whose book *Our Blood Remembers* received the non-fiction award from Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers. She was honored at the Returning the Gift ceremony in Milwaukee this September. Red Elk, a descendant of the Isanti, Hunkpapa, and Ihanktowan bands of the Dakota/Lakota Sioux Nation, has a human services degree from Fort Peck Community College and an education degree from Rocky Mountain College. She enjoys writing poetry and prose and practices the art of porcupine quill embroidery. Her book, featuring illustrations by her son, **Dustin Noble Red Elk Reed**, and edited by **Lowell Jaeger**, was published in May 2011 by Many Voices Press, Kalispell. "Red Elk's candor, clarity and wisdom are imparted amongst and across generations. This collection is what we have all been waiting for," wrote Montana poet Mandy Smoker Broaddus. Wordcraft Circle supports the work and words of Native and Indigenous people in order to strengthen the impact of their voices in asserting community sovereignty, individual self-determination, traditional and cultural values and creative expression.



"William" by Brenda Wolf

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Continued on next page

MORE CONGRATS TO ...

Missoula author **Dave Ames**, whose book *Me, My Cells, and I: A Survivor's Seriously Funny Guide to the Science of Cancer*, was a finalist in the Alternative Health category for the 2012 Coalition of Visionary Resources awards. COVR is a not-for-profit trade organization dedicated to supporting independent retailers, manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and publishers of visionary books, music and merchandise. Retailers and professionals evaluate each title based upon content, presentation and their own knowledge of the industry. Ames is a cancer survivor who explores a combination of traditional treatments, alternative practices and humor as a way to increase the odds of beating this disease.

Polson artist and musician **John Davis**, who received a Plum Creek Foundation grant to teach guitar to Valley View School students in grades 3-6. Small- and medium-sized guitars were purchased for the school, which is one of the last two-room rural schools in Montana, built in 1912. Assisting Davis is **Carla Martinson**, a composer, artist and videographer. Both are artists/volunteers at the Sandpiper Art Gallery in Polson.

Bozeman's Main Street, which was designated by the American Planning Association (APA) as one of 10 Great Streets for 2012 under the organization's Great Places in America program. APA Great Places exemplify exceptional character and highlight the roles planning and planners play in adding value to communities, including fostering economic growth and jobs. APA singled out Bozeman's Main Street for its frontier-town charm, concentration of late 19th- and early 20th-century buildings, adaptive reuse of historic structures and diversity of uses. Most of this nine-block stretch, which runs from North Broadway Ave. on the east to North Third Ave. on the west, is part of a 1987 National Historic District. The street "is Bozeman's gem and certainly one of Montana's last best places," says Mayor Sean Becker. Bozeman's Main Street is the second Great Place designation in Montana, joining Red Lodge's Broadway Avenue (recognized in 2010). "Main Street is Bozeman's time capsule, capturing the city's history from the 1870s when the street was a gateway to Southwestern Montana mining camps to today's role as the economic anchor of Gallatin Valley," said APA Chief Executive Officer Paul Farmer, FAICP. "An intense focus on planning and preservation during the past quarter century has protected Main Street's lively and unique character and helped continue the economic and cultural prosperity found here."

Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings, which met the requirements of a challenge grant from William I. Koch of Palm Beach, FL, after a fund drive was capped with a pledge of \$111,000 from Gary and Melissa Oakland. YAM was awarded a \$300,000 challenge grant by Koch in June 2011 to assist with the museum's expansion campaign. The grant will support endowment as well as complete capital projects that are designed to make the YAM's permanent collections more accessible to the public. "Those who love and collect art are often those most eager to share that joy with the public. Both Bill Koch and Gary Oakland share that distinction," said YAM Executive Director Robyn G. Peterson. "We are honored to benefit from the generosity of both of these longstanding donors, and are delighted that it was Gary who put us over the finish line for this grant." The YAM's Expansion Campaign began in 2006. Since that time, the museum's endowment has grown seven-fold through the efforts of the board and campaign volunteers. Koch has made loans of American Western and European art since 2000, while Oakland has been a member of the YAM's Board of Trustees since 2008 and has made generous loans from his collection of French art.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks in Bozeman, which received \$20,000, and **Humanities Montana's Festival of the Book**, which received \$15,000, from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. The foundation made grants to 20 arts and culture organizations in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington, totaling more than \$1 million and reaching an estimated 561,000 audience members.

— Compiled by Kristi Niemeyer for *State of the Arts*

TRANSITIONS

Welcome and best wishes to Billings native **Bob Durden**, who was named senior curator of the Yellowstone Art Museum, effective Aug. 1. He had been serving as project manager on the YAM's new exhibition, "Boundless Visions," which showcases the museum's permanent collection, since January. Durden has served as curator at Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls, and before that as director and curator of the Yeiser Art Center in Paducah, KY. He worked on the curatorial staff from 1991 to 1999 at what was then the Yellowstone Art Center, and helped usher in the expansion and renaming of the museum. Durden has also taught in the theater and art departments of Rocky Mountain College. His new duties make him responsible for the exhibitions and the permanent collection. "I've been privileged to spend the majority of my career in

the arts and higher education, and I greatly look forward to performing continued service to the regional arts community, here in my hometown, at the grand museum where I cut my teeth," Durden said in the *Billings Gazette*. "It's great to be home."

— From the *Billings Gazette*, Aug. 14, 2012



Alyse Johnson



Duane Braaten

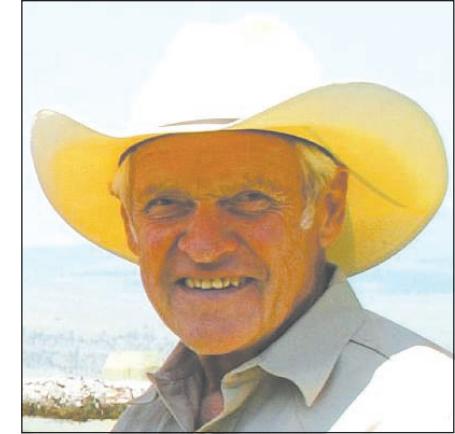
Welcome to two newcomers at the C.M. Russell Museum: **Alyse Johnson** was appointed communications director, effective Aug. 13, and **Duane Braaten** took the newly created post of special projects coordinator for the museum's fundraising auction, The Russell: The Sale to Benefit the C.M. Russell Museum, held annually in March. Prior to joining the museum, Johnson worked as the marketing coordinator at the franchising offices of Great Harvest Bread Company in Dillon. She holds a bachelor's of arts degree in communications studies from The University of Montana, Missoula, and worked at the museum in 2009 as its Dufresne summer intern. Braaten has nearly 20 years of experience in museums and the arts. He previously worked for the Great Falls Advertising Federation and the Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings. He worked at the C.M. Russell Museum during an earlier tenure, and rejoined the staff in 2011 as senior preparator in the curatorial department. As the museum's new special projects art coordinator, he will focus on The Russell sale.

CONDOLENCES TO ...

The family and friends of renowned artist **Larry V. Zabel**.

He lost his valiant battle with C.M. Leukemia Sept. 11 at his home up North Meadow Creek near McAllister. Zabel was born Jan. 19, 1930, at Deer Creek, MN, where he attended a one-room country school. His mother was an accomplished artist and encouraged her obviously gifted son to draw and paint from age three. In 1938, the family moved to California

and Zabel graduated from Anaheim Union High School in 1947. (He was inducted into that high school's Hall of Fame for distinguished graduates in 2010.) He served in the United States Navy for over three years, and attended the University of California, Santa Barbara, and the University of the Americas in Mexico City before graduating from Long Beach State. He went to work for Douglas Aircraft Corp in Oklahoma and California and the Genge Corporation as an illustrator and writer, and eventually took a Civil Service position at the China Lake Naval Weapons Test Facility as director of technical information. During those years he continued to paint. He was sent to Vietnam several times to film the use of Naval weapons and to gain reference material to produce a series of combat art paintings for the Navy, which can be seen at the Naval Archives Center in Washington, DC. After completing his 20 years of government service, he decided to retire and pursue another career as a western "cowboy" artist. He moved to Montana about 25 years ago and, before long, was making a name for himself producing paintings of Montana scenery, its ranchers, their ranches, the native people and the wildlife. His paintings now hang in many public and private collections all the way from government offices in Washington DC to the West Coast. He has contributed to countless worthy causes and fundraising efforts, including the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Madison Valley Ranchlands Group, The Madison River Foundation and The Madison Valley Medical Center. According to a story published in *The Madisonian* shortly before he died, Zabel completed the painting "Bear Creek Schoolhouse" for the Madison Valley Ranchlands Group's annual noxious weed fundraiser, held at the Bear Creek Schoolhouse east of Cameron in August. Although he donates a painting each year, this year's piece was finished in his hospital room. The work brought \$21,000 to the group's efforts to fight noxious weeds in the Madison Valley. "It's an incredible gift," Melissa Griffiths, weed coordinator for the organization, told the newspaper. "It's a show of his deep generosity and his belief in what we're working for." The Madison River Foundation, another recipient of his generosity, posted the following tribute on its website: "Larry had a heart as big as Montana. He loved the Madison River, the Madison Valley, its people, heritage and wildlife. Larry's generous support over the years raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Madison River Foundation. Because of his generosity, the Foundation Board of Directors named him a 'Steward of the Madison,' and he will remain so in perpetuity."



Larry Zabel



Bob Durden

Artist Gathering (from page 1)

Nine people also became MAP Certified Coaches and were awarded their certificates. They are Jan Shanahan, Flathead-area cohort; Kris Komar and Deb Essen, Hamilton-area cohort; Tammy Zemliska, Musselshell Valley cohort; Marti DeAlva, Arlee-area cohort; Diane Hausmann, Choteau-area cohort; DG House, Four Corners-area cohort; Kathe LeSage, Helena cohort; and Dyani Bingham, Big Timber cohort.

Starting Saturday evening, and continuing through Oct. 1, participating artists split into three tracks of workshops designed to help artists reach their goals of becoming more sustainable in their business of art.

Track I, "Internet for Artists," participants learned from Creative Capital about how to use the internet to build community, promote artistic work, and increase administrative effectiveness. The workshop also helped artists expand their



Arlee artist Karl Stein's booth at the Artist Showcase highlights his wood and paper creations.

thinking to quickly recognize and implement the possibilities of new technologies as they develop.

Track II started with a session led by Miranda Keaster, training and development specialist for Montana Information Technology

Services Division, on how to conduct market research that produces results. On Sunday, the sessions continued with photographer Chris Autio of Missoula discussing how to create stronger images of work; and with attorney Bill Frazier of Big Timber, known for his *State of the Arts* column "Law and the Art World," leading a workshop to help artists gain a deeper understanding of legal issues.

On Monday, artists in this track developed their skills in public speaking, building leadership strategies, and improving interpersonal communications in a day-long "Effective Verbal Communications" workshop with Creative Capital's Kirby Tepper.

Track III sessions started with MAP coaches Deb Essen and DG House providing "Tips for MAP Certification" and continued with MAP Coach Kris Komar of Hamilton helping participants craft a proposal in "Successful Proposal Writing," and Chuck Fulcher, Great Falls artist and designer, exploring how to develop a successful brand.

The track also featured MAP Coach Jan Shanahan of Whitefish providing insights into how artists can add revenue in her workshop on "Introduction to Licensing" and ended with a panel discussion featuring Dana Bousard, nationally known Arlee artist; Donna Mollica of Hangin' Art Gallery in Arlee; Naomi Fox, representing the Monte Dolack Gallery in Missoula; Kendahl Jan Jubb, nationally known Missoula watercolorist; and Ram Murphy of Murphy Jubb Fine Art in Missoula.

Artist Gathering 2012 was open to artists who had participated in one of the 16 MAP groups across the state. New MAP cohorts will be forming for the next year for visual artists working in all media.

For more information go to www.art.mt.gov or contact Cindy Kittredge, Folk Arts and Market Development Specialist, at 406-468-4078 or mtcreativearts@gmail.com.

5



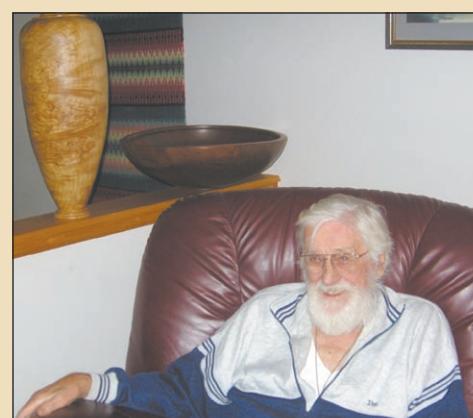
Informal gathering of artists at Karen Chesna's new Glacier Metal School in Kalispell includes (clockwise around the table): Kris Komar (Hamilton), Karen Chesna (Kalispell), Michael Blessing (Bozeman), Meagan Blessing (Bozeman), Jan Shanahan (Whitefish), Tammy Zemliska (Melstone), and Gloria Mang (Roundup).



Kirby Tepper (Creative Capital) leads the discussion in Verbal Communications.

CONDOLENCES TO ...

The family and friends of skilled woodworker **Gordon McMullen**. He died at his Bozeman home on Aug. 14 at age 86. By trade, he ran a plumbing business until he retired in 1989. However, in retirement he honed his skills as a wood turner, as well as designing and building his own lathes to create his pieces. His passion for wood-working and turning didn't suddenly



Gordon McMullen, who was recently inducted into Montana's Circle of American Masters for Visual and Traditional Arts.

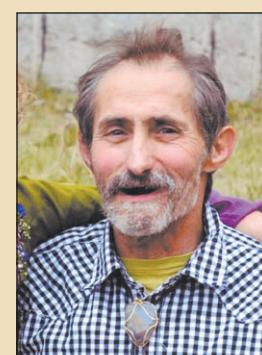
appear – he got interested at six years old when his older brother received a lathe as a gift. His most recent projects were turning alabaster bowls with wooden rims. His work was been recognized by the Montana Arts Council, and he was recently inducted into Montana's Circle of American Masters for Visual Folk and Traditional Arts. He and his wife, Barbara, were avid travelers; with his family, he enjoyed NASCAR events and stock car races, discussions on books, politics and news, and attending cultural events. His generosity also stretched beyond family, as he mentored young wood turners in the wood shop at Bozeman High School.

The family and friends of **Kenneth Howard Mueller**. He died Aug. 14 in Billings at age 72. He retired in 2010 after serving as associate medical examiner for the state of Montana for 30 years. The former Navy captain played trombone with the Community Band and Community Orchestra, the Al Bedoo Shriners Dance Band and the Billings Brass Society, of which he was a founding member. He also sang in church choirs and was a loyal baseball fan.

The family and friends of **Mary Eudena "Dena" Roush**. She died Aug. 23 in Billings, after celebrating her 100th birthday in June. Roush, who loved painting and writing in her studio, was a charter member of the Montana Watercolor Society.

The family and friends of musician **George Allen Prudden**. He died unexpectedly at home on Aug. 27, at age 64. The Chicago native, who attended Western Illinois College, worked for years at Kagan and Gaines Music Store where he was skilled at musical instrument repair and piano tuning. He met his wife-to-be, Barda Allen, in Oak Park in 1979 when he was the sound man for the band Alibi; they moved to Helena in 1986, where Prudden was a craftsman of stellar reputation for 26 years. Music was always at the center of his life. He played the flute and piano and composed music. Prudden played jazz, rock 'n roll and classical, as well as his own compositions, with a great many musicians around Helena, including The Edgewalkers, Jah Provide, Marathon Dance Band, The States of Matter and, with his sons, Circle of Light. He also played the flute in the Helena City Band for several summers, sang in the choir at the Cathedral of St. Helena and, most recently, played flute and did sound at the Helena Center of Creative Living, where he had also served on the board. Many will remember him portraying the grandfather in Queen City Ballet's annual production of "The Nutcracker." He played a part in a short film by Brynn Holt, "Myths of Helena," shown at the Martin Holt Short Film Festival. In the last summer months of his life he attended Wildflower XXXVII with his family, where he played his heart out on his flute every day and all night. He studied yoga and meditation, was a great cook and baker of fine desserts, and was known for a joyful exuberance for life, a palpable spiritual nature and a great sense of humor.

The friends and family of **Leatrice (Deda) Voss**. The longtime Polson resident died Aug. 27 at age 88. After moving to Montana in 1979, she worked at the Lake County Courthouse until her retirement, and then part time for Lake County Abstract and Title. She began taking piano lessons at age five, encouraged by her Aunt Augusta (who played for silent pictures in the 1920s and 1930s) and never stopped playing. She played the organ in her church in Minnesota (and taught private piano lessons there) and the piano in her church in Montana, and accompanied soloists, funerals, weddings and school concerts. She first played for theatre in 1986 when she began playing for the Port Polson Players. She was hooked and from then on played for all the musicals she could until she was 85 and unable to see the music clearly.



George Prudden

The healing power of art

The Advocate, a newspaper in Baton Rouge, LA, reported Sept. 15:

In a recent chemotherapy session, cancer patient Jeanine Smallwood and her fellow patients laughed and shared their life stories. Their unique experience was facilitated by Baton Rouge General Medical Center's new Arts in Medicine program and its artist-in-residence, Juliet Lockwood.

Lockwood serves patients at the hospital's Pennington Cancer Center, thanks to a year-long grant from Livestrong and the vision of the hospital's executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Read more at theadvocate.com.

— Society for Arts in Healthcare, September 2012

ARTS IN EDUCATION



6

Arts initiative gets underway in Lame Deer school

By Susan Olp
Reprinted with permission from the *Billings Gazette*

Natalie Parker, the new music teacher at Lame Deer Junior High, already has proof of how the arts can change students.

In early September, the eighth-graders in Parker's general music class played bucket drums for the first time. Up until that point, a couple of boys regularly disrupted the class with their antics.

Then the bucket drumming began, and that immediately engaged one of the two mischief-makers. A natural leader, he told the other kids to pipe down when Parker called for quiet, rather than causing the commotion himself.

"To see that kind of leadership start coming out of students is really exciting," Parker said Tuesday.

That music and art, drama and dance can change youth is no mystery. Studies have shown how participation in those activities can breed success in other parts of a child's life, including academics.

That is the impetus behind the two-year "Turnaround Arts" initiative created by a partnership between the U.S. Department of Education and the White House Domestic Policy Council.

High-poverty school

Lame Deer Junior High is one of eight high-poverty elementary and middle schools in the nation chosen to take part in a new arts education program designed to help transform low-performing schools.

Kathy Fletcher, the initiative's director, came to the junior high to meet with administration and staff to strategize how to put the initiative into action. She was joined by Katy Mayo-Hudson, the initiative's implementation coordinator.

The junior high and Lame Deer High School are housed in the same building, a few miles from the center of the tiny town on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. There is teacher crossover between the two schools, so although the initiative is aimed at the junior high, both schools will benefit.

All eight schools in the initiative will receive \$10,000 for musical instruments during each of the next two years and \$10,000 for art supplies. National partners in the program include Crayola, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ford Foundation, the Herb Alpert Foundation, the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM), the Aspen Institute and Booz Allen Hamilton.

Lame Deer students saw more excitement in October, when world-renowned artists came to work with them. As part of the initiative, the school has been adopted by ballet dancer, choreographer, producer and director Damian Woetzel.

He made a visit to the school this fall, along with the Silk Road Ensemble, a collective of talented musicians, to teach and perform with the students.

Lame Deer learned last spring that it had been chosen as one of the Turnaround schools. This summer, Aundre Bell, the high school/junior high principal, attended training at the Aspen Institute in Maryland, along with Parker and art teacher Susan Wolf.

They trained with representatives from the other seven schools, gaining support from each other and gleaning ideas of how to use the arts to help the Lame Deer students. All of it together will help the school, Bell said.

"We're getting resources that we wouldn't normally have access to," he said. "And we have access to people we normally wouldn't have access to, to help lead the charge."

Getting everyone on board

Sometimes trying to implement a great idea is difficult when only a few people are on board, Bell said.

"But when you have the White House pushing this initiative, it goes a long way," he said.

Fletcher, who met with staff and students Sept. 10, said she's already seen a change from when she visited the school in the spring



Lame Deer music teacher Natalie Parker helps C.J. Cryar, a junior at Lame Deer High School, during band. (Photo by Bob Zellar, reprinted with permission from the *Billings Gazette*)

to determine if it was a good candidate for the program.

"I watched one of Mrs. Parker's classes and I had a lump in my throat the size of a grapefruit because last year I was in that room and it was empty and it had not been used for six years," she said.

She acknowledged that the school is "at the beginning of a very long road" of integrating the arts into the school.

"But we have already seen so many hopeful signs," she said.

One person helping with that is Parker, whose husband is a member of the tribe. Parker is a veteran music teacher who has taught in a number of Montana towns as well as in eastern Washington.

Art and resources

About five years ago, she and her family started spending summers in Lame Deer with family, working on a log cabin. When Parker found out the music teacher post was open at the school, she decided it would be a good fit. It didn't hurt that the arts initiative would provide her the resources to equip her classrooms.

Already Parker is teaching a high school band class, with students playing clarinet, saxophone, piano and drums. In the junior high, she's teaching a general music class in both grades and so far has eight students in each.

Her goal is to someday teach music to all of the junior high students. She already has a plan to lure more seventh- and eighth-graders into music.

"I've applied to NAMM and I want to get marimbas for the junior high," she said. "I had a marimba band in Connell (WA) for eight years and it's a fabulous hands-on, immediate success thing for that age group."

Parker is equally excited to implement some of the ideas she learned at the Aspen Institute about integrating music into other academic areas. For instance, she is going

to work with a junior high math teacher on introducing Pythagoras, the father of math and music.

In ancient times, math and music were one subject of study, not two, she said, and only split apart hundreds of years later. Now students can see how the two fit together.

"I'm really excited to collaborate with the other teachers, to make this integrated arts a happening thing," Parker said.

Wolf also is working to blend art with other subjects at school. Already her classroom is filled with boxes of art supplies from Crayola.

To help with the arts integration, Crayola trainers will visit the school later in September to share workbooks with teachers designed to help them integrate arts into their own area of study.

Wolf wants to help her art students develop their talents and show them off to other students by putting them on exhibit. She's also excited to stay in touch with the other teachers she met at the training, and particularly those from Orchard Gardens K-8 in Boston, which the Lame Deer staff was paired with.

"We're just kind of at the beginning of this unfolding,"

she said, about all of the connecting that can take place between teachers from both schools and the students. "I get chills just talking about it."

Bell ordered webcams for the classrooms, so students from Lame Deer will be able to talk face-to-face with the Boston students. But he also sees the potential for some teaching going on.

"Our kids will teach them traditional dance for a period of time, and then their dance

teacher will teach the merengue or Latin dance to our kids, and then we'll just go back and forth," Bell said.

The students at Lame Deer are no strangers to the arts, he said. At home, many of the youth are singers and drummers and beaders, as well as artists and carvers.

"Now with the arts initiative, we're letting those kids bring all of that out, to say, 'This is what I do at home, this is what I learned from my grandpa,'" Bell said. "Now it's giving the kids the opportunity to showcase what they're doing."

In Wolf's art room recently, C.J. Cryar, a high school junior, played alto saxophone in the band class. He played clarinet when he was younger, until music was no longer offered at the school.

"It feels good to have a band back in the school," he said. "It's nice to experience new things in life."

Junior Michael Bowers, a piano player in the band, played music in the sixth grade. When he found out it once again offered, "I signed up immediately because I love music."

Over in the art room, Marvin Garcia put the finishing touches on a baby moccasin he made out of clay. Garcia, also a junior, comes by his talent naturally. His grandfather paints portraits.

Garcia, who also does beading, also likes to draw.

"This is one of my favorite classes," he said.

Arts Education Hotline

The Montana Arts Council has a toll-free hotline for Arts Education. Sponsors wishing to apply for grant support for the Artists in Schools and Communities program can call 800-282-3092 for answers to their questions.

The Montana Arts Council will assist callers with project design and application procedures. It can also offer advice on other matters in the area of arts and education and community residencies.

Artists who would like to be included in the Artist Registry may also call for applications.

ARTS IN EDUCATION

A whole lot of writing happens at Smith Elementary School

By Anne Bauer

There's a whole lot of writing going on at Smith Elementary School in Helena. It started in the spring of 2010 when then-principal Pamela Wright started a poetry residency.

Central School in Helena had a poetry residency for two years at that point, and she wanted to give it a try. Following the model established by the Missoula Writing Collaborative, teachers, students and the poet had enjoyed great success.

Central students made measurable gains in writing proficiency during the residency with the talented and enthusiastic writer Caroline Patterson, got published in a handful of publications, and learned to love (or better appreciate) words as a means of being understood. (Patterson has since moved to Missoula and writer Krys Holmes will teach the residency at Central this year.)

Patterson agreed to teach a second residency at Smith; the Montana Arts Council agreed to fund 50% of the cost; the Collaborative agreed to support another residency; and the program was off and running in the fall of 2010. The following year, I came on as writer.

The program supplements the work being done by the classroom teachers by focusing on poetry and often builds prompts around specific curriculum units or the broader six traits of effective writing. Poets such as Sheryl Noethe, Jennifer Greene, Loren Graham and Mandy Smoker Broaddus have come in and shared their poetry and stories about their process.

All students in the fourth and fifth grades participate in the 15-week residency. Students learn that poetry is a versatile medium for self-expression and engage in it weekly. The students find that their poetry means something to them, and then they begin to understand the connection between what they mean and what they say.

They become motivated to work with language to ensure they are understood. In some cases, this experience is nothing short of life-changing.

Poetry makes a difference

Every reading, I hear from students and parents how poetry has made a difference. I'll never forget one father who told me that writing poetry made his son – a boy who was familiar with the inside of the principal's office – see himself in a new way. Hearing the sensitivity and facile language in his son's poem moved the man to pride, and to tears.

I'll never forget the mother who told me how touched her father was by the poem her daughter wrote about their fishing trip, and how, when her father died without warning days later, what a comfort that poem was.

I had a similar experience in the seventh grade. The Arts Council funded a poet to come into what was then Helena Junior High. I'll never forget how the poet flipped her blonde braid back and looked me straight on to tell me my work had merit. It opened up my whole world. Suddenly, so much more seemed possible for me: I was good at something.



Smith Elementary School students Alan Watne (above) and Lydia Dietz (at left) read from their work.

Anything Is Possible

**by Carsen Schaff
(Teacher: Mr. Thompson)**

In my imagination anything is possible like Santa riding Comet, kids and schools getting along flying pigs, ice cream for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Bobcats winning against Griz but only once, Giant sour rainbow cats and Voldemort and Harry being friends. I like it there to be cause you can be anything you want like a superhero pirate, but I like being a giant rainbow parrot ... with a cape.

(Carsen's poetry also appears in the anthology of student writing, *Signatures from Big Sky*)

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T.E.A. grants available

The Montana Arts Council continues to offer Teacher Exploration of the Arts (TEA) grants. This program is for elementary classroom teachers or K-8 teachers with an elementary endorsement, who are asked to teach visual art or music and do not have a background in that subject, and wish to work one-on-one with a professional working artist in order to develop skills in a particular artistic discipline.

Disciplines include dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theatre and visual arts.

For more information, go to [art.mt.gov/schools/schools_tea.asp](http://mt.gov/schools/schools_tea.asp).

Parents support the arts

Parents believe the program is as valuable as the teachers do. According to current Smith principal Jilyn Oliveira, "They help pay for it." The Montana Arts Council grant pays half of the cost of the residency. The other half comes from the school budget and from the parent council, Parents for Smith School.

Many, many people in the Smith School community support the arts and this enthusiasm led to more opportunities for the kids.

After-school writing club

The accomplished and talented writer Rebecca Stanfel has started an after-school writing club at Smith. The experience of having such a creative and inspiring writer working shoulder to shoulder with them every Monday afternoon throughout the school year will stay with those children forever.

Stanfel met with two-dozen students between second and fifth grades. Her students sampled various genres, including journalism, short stories, non-fiction essays and poetry, and produced an anthology of work. She helped the children practice the art and craft of writing, and bring to the paper just the right image and detail.

Stanfel says she "wouldn't be surprised to learn that several of the kids were sparked by the poetry residency and then self-selected for the after-school writing club. The poetry program gets children comfortable with writing."

ing," she continued, "helping them learn they can express themselves in the written form."

Each of these two programs helps students find their voice, Stanfel says. "Poetry is a great medium to work with for kids who have a range of abilities. The after-school program also empowers students to find their voice and to write their own truth, but the main difference is the format – poetry versus the narrative writing."

Stanfel notes that we don't typically think children can master narrative writing until they are a little bit older, but that she found her students excelled in it. "One student, a second grader, wrote about walking in this amazing snow storm with her father. That was the highlight of her year, and she wrote about it beautifully," Stanfel says.

Oliveira strongly supports both programs. The children have phenomenal reading abilities, Oliveira says, but "the one area in which we lack as a district is writing because it takes so much time to teach and is so hard to grade objectively. This helps the teachers out because we can bring in someone from the outside, so to speak, who loves poetry."

Teachers enjoy the program and are eager to get going again, she said. "It's great to see the growth in the kids because of the poetry program," she continued.

Through committed efforts by the Arts Council, the Missoula Writing Collaborative, parents, schools, and writers, language arts make a difference in the lives of fourth and fifth graders in Helena. Art lives!

Art and photo contest celebrates historic bridge

Preservation Cascade, Inc. is sponsoring an Art and Photo Contest for 14-18-year-olds on Nov. 10 at the Great Falls Public Library.

Students are invited to create artworks that focus on the Historic 10th Street Bridge that spans the Missouri River in Great Falls.

The organization is awarding prizes in each category of \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place.

The minimum size is 8-by-10 inches,

and the maximum size is 18-by-24 inches. All entries must be original and have the historic bridge as their subject.

Finished work must be submitted to Lisa Easton at Great Falls High School before Nov. 5, and will be displayed at the Great Falls Public Library. Local artists and photographers will select the winning entries Nov. 10.

For details, call Arlyne Reichert at 406-452-5492.

THE LITERARY LANDSCAPE

Historical literary figures east of the Continental Divide

By Tami Haaland

I remember the day, many years ago, when my colleague at MSU Billings, Sue Hart, sorted through a stack of Christmas cards from "Papa" Hemingway. Sue is well known for her work as a literary historian in Montana, and I am grateful to her for introducing me to the fun of this kind of literary investigation.

Holding those cards and reading the handwritten notes piqued my curiosity. When I asked about Hemingway, Sue shared a variety of details, but among them was her research on his short story "The Gambler." He wrote it in 1930 after a car accident near Billings landed him in St. Vincent's Hospital.

His seven-week stay included an inventive surgery using kangaroo tendon to repair his injured arm. Equally interesting is the series of events at St. Vincent's Hospital that paralleled those in "The Gambler," a story that features a baseball-watching nun alongside Mexican and Russian men who are brought into the emergency room after a fight.

I started conducting investigations of my own soon after this initiation. Among the most interesting discoveries for me was a volume of poetry written by Robert Frost's daughter, Marjorie. This thin, brightly colored volume tucked away in the Montana Room of Parmly Billings Library sent me in search of her story. Again, Sue provided details to get me started.

Marjorie married Willard Fraser, who was to become Billings' beloved mayor of the 1960s and '70s. Unfortunately, Marjorie died a few weeks after their daughter, Robin, was born. To find out more about Marjorie and her work, I investigated both Frost's letters and the Frost family letters. They revealed the parents' excitement about the marriage, their thrill at visiting Montana and their great sorrow at Marjorie's painful decline and death. After a year or two passed, the letters reveal their decision to pub-

lish the book as well as ideas they considered and rejected during its preparation.

Because their grandchild grew up in Billings, the Frosts would occasionally visit and sometimes Robert Frost would read his poetry or lecture in the community. He gave the graduation address at Senior High School's 1952 ceremony when Robin was among the graduates. There are also records of several presentations at Rocky Mountain College and full transcript of a talk given at Eastern Montana College (now MSU Billings) in 1952.

Many literary figures inhabited the eastern part of Montana, some better known than others. The four poets below lived in Montana during the early 20th century, either in their youth, or spending their adult years on the prairie.

J.V. Cunningham spent the formative years of his life in Billings before his family moved south to Denver. His "Montana Pastoral" details the effects of a harsh climate on the individual. From Denver he went to Stanford to study with modernist poet Yvor Winters.

Gwendolen Haste came to Billings as a teenager in the early twentieth century to assist her father in publishing his magazine, *The Scientific Farmer*. As part of their work, they visited farms and ranches, and based on some of her experiences, Haste wrote and published her most well-known poems, including "Ranch in the Coulee," a portrait of a woman's isolation on the prairie.

Grace Stone Coates lived in nearby Martinsdale and published both fiction and poetry. Her coming-of-age story, "Wild Plums," features a young girl growing up in a rural community. John Updike thought so much of it that he chose "Wild Plums" as one of The Best American Short Stories of the Century. Coates is also well known for her editorial work

alongside H.G. Merriam on *The Frontier*. Fortunately for us, Drumlummon has republished her poetry in *Food of God and Starvelings* (2007) and plans to make her previously unpublished novel, *Clear Title*, available soon.

Finally, I would like to mention Glendive's Dorothe Bendon, whose volume of poetry

Like family history, literary history is a gradual unfolding, a pursuit of one strand or another of possibilities over time.



In this photo from the *Billings Gazette*, writer Ernest Hemingway stands with his arm in a sling while being cared for at St. Vincent in the fall of 1930 after an accident.

(Photo courtesy of the Western Heritage Center)

entitled *Mirror Images* was published in 1931 when she was in her early twenties. The poems are sensuous and show significant talent, and I have been fascinated not only by her work but the forces that surround it.

On the one hand, the professor at Mills College who introduced her work scorned Bendon's Montana background as "unpoetic." On the other hand, H.G. Merriam wrote a scathing review in *The Frontier*, criticizing her work because she failed to focus more exclusively on Montana. He was especially critical of her mythological references, though Merriam, himself wrote poetry heavily laden with mythological themes. Bendon went on to become a scholar, and among her most well-known books is *The English Novel: Form and Function*.

Investigating the literary past of a given place has many rewards. Like family history, literary history is a gradual unfolding, a pursuit of one strand or another of possibilities over time. Just when it seems all of the information is clear, something else can turn up to deepen the story or throw everything onto another track.

We can see shadows of current patterns in the stories of the past. And, likewise, through this investigation communities might come to recognize that their literary present is soon to be their literary past, and individuals and groups might take up the enjoyable pursuit of mining this legacy for the gems it has to offer.

Reflections West: A five-minute foray into the literature of the West

Take a five-minute foray into the writing and culture of the West during "Reflections West." Each week on public radio, hosts David Moore and Lisa Simon read compelling contributions about the West that have been thematically paired with a poignant passage of literature.

The season continues with the following pairings:

- Neil McMahon reflects on the role physical labor has played on the writing of the West. He pairs his thoughts with a poem by the late Ed Lahey, Oct. 30 and Nov. 1.
- Melissa Mylchreest reflects on the mythology of the American West, pairing it with her poem, "The Gap-tooth Girl," Nov. 20 and 22.
- Clay Springmeyer reflects on unexpected dangers in peaceful places, and pairs it with a poem by Sheila Ruble, Nov. 27 and 29.
- Sandra Dal Poggetto reflects on the right tool for the art of birding, and pairs her thoughts with those of Annie Oakley, Dec. 4 and 6.
- UM professor Tobin Shearer reflects on race relations in the West. He pairs his thoughts with a poignant excerpt by Albert Raboteau, author of *A Fire in the Bones: Reflections on African American History*, Dec. 11 and 13.
- Krys Holmes reflects on the human desire to leave a legacy, paired with a poem by her brother, Steve Garnaas-Holmes, Dec. 18 and 20.

Programs air at 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays on Montana Public Radio and 7:01 p.m. Thursdays on Yellowstone Public Radio, and are posted on the broadcast date at www.reflectionswest.org.

Web resources for writers

Every Writer's Resource, www.everywritersresource.com:

This website offers a listing of the top 50 literary magazines, as well as the top 50 online literary magazines. The abundant content also includes a list of book and magazine publishers, tips for students in university writing programs, suggestions on how to promote your writing, and print-on-demand resources.

Poets & Writers, www.pw.org:

Considered by many to be the best source for poets and writers, this website offers features from the award-winning print edition, daily news items, advice from writers, and a popular blog about writing contests.

remember to pack

- ✓ map
- ✓ gloves
- ✓ binoculars
- ✓ ipod
- ✓ Van Daig
- ✓ Annie Proulx
- ✓ James Welch
- ✓ Judy Blunt

Going Somewhere?

Travel with the voices of the West



Reflections
WEST.ORG

ABOUT MUSIC

JIMnI

Recorded at Point A Studios on Finley Point, by Stacy Santilli and Troy Ricciardi; mixed by Santilli; and mastered by Nathan Zavalyne, Missoula Soundworks, Missoula, MT, 2012

The self-titled debut CD from Polson duo JIMnI, featuring Stacy Lynne Santilli and Jim Steiner, has been a long time in the works, and the wait was well worth it. The two musicians have

performed together for 10 years in various bands and always found themselves making music together. They wanted to put something down that was original, and Steiner's 13 self-penned songs fit the bill.

The CD features sparse production that never gets in the way of Santilli's soaring vocals and Steiner's warm, baritone pipes. Santilli also plays piano and tambourine, and Steiner's excellent guitar fretwork anchors his tunes. Guest artists are Troy Ricciardi on steel guitar and Jen Slayden on cello.

The moody "Thief of Hearts" (with lyrics by Steiner's wife, Brenda) starts us off with Santilli's rich, expressive alto leading the way. Ricciardi plays cool, fuzzed-up steel licks and Santilli has spot-on inflections, a ton of control and a fine, husky sound.

Terrific, bold cello from Slayden underpins the next song, "Don't Look Back." The spooky harmonies the duo sings show they are well-matched and tight, and Steiner's emotional lead brings depth. Although Santilli could easily overpower this one, the sound is understated and just right.

"Rusted Crosses," inspired by the crosses along Highway 93, opens slowly with a bluesy, almost ominous feel. Steiner's adept guitar work and harmonica lead the way on a tune that morphs into trouble at 3 a.m.: "The reaper man's been here too many years in a row." Way-cool bent vocal notes from both singers here!

Santilli begs her lover to forgive with long, sad tones in "For You"; she also plays expressive piano on the pretty, bittersweet "Pictures," inspired by an exhibit of Pulitzer Prize-winning photos. The unison harmony of Steiner and Santilli is a nice touch on the chorus ("Some people don't try at all ... some people don't give a damn ...").

"Bring 'Em Home" features Steiner singing lead on a ballad with political undertones, and "Kiss My Ass" is a Dylan-esque story poem, replete with harmonica and Steiner's pleading vocal, about a woman, according to notes, "who's had just about enough." Once again, they cook on their complementary vocal style here, and the zinger of a last verse is great!

There's a lot more to the album, and good production lets the artists shine at what they do best.

Visit JIMnI at www.reverbnation.com/jimnilive, or www.facebook.com/jimnimusic.

— Mariss McTucker



Dodgy Mountain Men:

Stronger Than Death

Engineered, mixed and produced by Brandon Zimmer at Studio 1015; mastered by Jason Hicks, Missoula, MT, 2012

The Dodgy Mountain Men, a quartet of Missoula musicians, recently finished a cross-country tour to promote their first CD to purvey what they call a "home-brewed Montana stomprgrass that goes down smooth but packs a bite."

Sort of like moonshine, their raw sound grows on you with its old-time mix of bluegrass and early frontier music. They credit Bob Dylan and the Grateful Dead as influences, among others, yet the string band nuances bring out the Americana in their tunes. (Rockacana?)

The group consists of vocalist/guitarist and harp player Eric "Boss" Bostrom; Jed Nussbaum on vocals, mandolin, and guitar; Scott Howard on electric bass; and Clyde C. Netzelley IV on tabla, or Indian hand drums. Producer Brandon Zimmer also plays djembe, a larger hand drum, on one number, "Sleep When I'm Dead." The addition of the Indian percussion adds an inventive dimension to the band's rustic sound.

Principal songwriters are Nussbaum and Bostrom, but the whole band adds input to these 12 originals. There's an old country flavor to the first piece, "Down That Road," with its fast-chuckin' guitar chords and gravelly vocals; it features a snappy mando break from Nussbaum.

"Sleep When I'm Dead ('rest when I'm dyin')" opens with Bostrom's mournful harmonica, segueing into a fast tempo and cool unison singing.



Both Nussbaum and Bostrom possess growly, authentic pipes, and the singers spit out the lyrics to each tune as if it's the last time they'll sing them. That gives the songs an edge that stays true to the album's title. Indeed, many of the compositions dance around the topic of death, fleshing out the theme. The tabla tastefully underpins the tunes, where heavy drums could overpower the mood.

"State of Minor" is a trembly, jumpy instrumental full of spooky chords. There's rockin' counterpoint of guitar and mando, propelling an exotic south-of-the-border sound. "Jackie," a tale of notoriety, revenge and murder, has country-folk stylings and a great squiggly guitar solo with Brian Setzer nuances.

There's almost a Middle-Eastern sound to "Montana Storms," which has Mick Jagger inflections in the vocals as well – a nice touch.

The swampy finger-snapper "Hell Thru a Bullet Hole" might be a favorite. The classic tale of western revenge is steeped in American history, has a cool melody and riffs, and tells a great story of a man tracking down a corrupt sheriff.

The love song, "Written," is a jazzy concoction; and in the galloping finale, "Ol' Calamity," fires are burning up farmers' crops.

Plenty here to listen to. A lot of the music rushes along at the same frenetic pace, but the storytelling makes it thoughtful, and the lead playing is interesting. Uncluttered production adds to the genuine flavor, too. Visit www.dodgymountainmen.com.

— Mariss McTucker

Perry and the Pumpers: *Movin' at Midnight*

Produced 2012 by Steve Ehrmann and Philip Aaberg; sequenced, mixed and mastered by Aaberg at The Bin in Chester, MT

Philip Aaberg could easily be called the "hardest working man in Montana show business" because of the numerous recordings, live music performances, radio programs and lectures he is involved with. In addition, he finds time to produce other artists' work, such as Jack Gladstone's *Native Anthropology* and the two-CD jazz compilation, *A Night At the Ozark*. It seems nothing is outside his creative grasp.

So, we come to the latest output from his recording studio, The Bin, located in Chester. Perry and The Pumpers' *Movin' At Midnight* delivers good-times blues and rock 'n roll, with a rolling-rolling groove for everyday Montana working men and women. It really doesn't matter that this latest Aaberg album was partly recorded in California or that some of the musicians hail from the Golden State – this is great Montana bar music.

Perry and the Pumpers was Aaberg's first music gig after the Montana native attended Harvard, and then left college for California.

"I was new in the Bay Area and looking for work playing music and I saw an ad in the *Rolling Stone* that said, 'Band needs keyboard player,'" recalls Aaberg.

The band was Perry and the Pumpers and, after auditioning, he ended up playing with them at a club in the North Beach area of San Francisco. "I stayed a long time – it was like going to school in rock 'n roll and the blues," Aaberg says.

The pianist finally left to join Elvin Bishop's band, having met Bishop when the blues rocker used to sit in with Perry and the Pumpers when he wasn't on the road.

Perry and the Pumpers is made up of Aaberg on piano and accordion, Perry Welsh, lead vocals and harmonica, Paul Revelli, drums and percussion, Steve Ehrmann, bass, and various guitar players sitting in, including Bishop on lead guitar on a couple of songs.

Aaberg's son, Michael, joins the group on Hammond organ on the rousing title track. This father/son duo also played together on a couple tracks on the *Night at the Ozark* CD.

Welsh's great baritone, though, is the band's stock-in-trade, lending itself to these blues and rock tunes. He sounds smooth as butter on the opening track, "Roberta." With a guitar solo by Bishop, this is great dance-hall music.

The album sparkles with blues tunes such as "Ain't That Just Like a Woman" and early rock 'n roll gems like "Hey Little Girl," a Zydeco-flavored arrangement that features Aaberg on accordion.

The rock 'n roll classic, "Mess Around," took me right back to the days of the Palace Hotel in Missoula. The song also features some barrelhouse piano runs by Aaberg, who sounds a lot like Jerry Lee Lewis. This is great roots music.

My favorite is "If You Love Me Like You Say," which includes some classic honkin' tenor saxophone riffs by Bay Area sax-woman Nancy Wright. Bar-walkin' and honkin', the way it ought to be – shades of Big Man Clarence Clemons of Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band.

My advice: pick up this CD, plunk it on the player, open your windows and doors and invite the neighbors in for some house-rockin', good-time dance music.

Learn more at www.sweetgrassmusic.com.

— Wilbur Rehmann

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State of the Arts welcomes CDs

State of the Arts welcomes CD submissions by Montana musicians for inclusion in the About Music section. The recordings must be professional, commercially available, full-length CDs, with cover art and liner notes. Brief biographical information on band members would be helpful to the writer.

Please send submissions to either the Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT, 59620; or Lively Times, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824.

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How to submit a book for *State of the Arts*

To submit a book by a Montana author for inclusion in *State of the Arts' "About Books"* section:

Please send a copy of the book to *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Tr., Charlo, MT 59824; or submit the following information electronically to writeus@livelystimes.com or mac@mt.gov:

- Title, author, publisher, publisher's address and month/year published;
- Price and whether it's hard- or softcover;
- A brief description of the book (no more than 200 words), and a short bio of the author;
- A cover image: minimum 200 dpi in pdf, jpg or tiff file;
- If other publications or authors have reviewed the book, send a brief sampling of those remarks.

If you would like us to return the book, include a note with it saying so. (We will pay for shipping.)

E-books: We'll also mention books that are only electronically published: send title, author, a cover image, website for downloads, and a brief paragraph about the book.

Books submitted to *State of the Arts* appear in this publication at the Montana Arts Council's discretion and as space permits, and will not necessarily be reprinted in *Lively Times*.

ABOUT BOOKS

Montana Real Place, Real People

Essays by Alan S. Kesselheim; photographs by Thomas Lee
Published 2012 by Companion Press, Bozeman, MT
\$29.95 softcover

This elegant blending of Alan Kesselheim's thoughtful narratives and Thomas Lee's beautiful photographs offers a glimpse of some of Montana's "real people" – defined by Kesselheim as "... genuine, passionate, and in their way, heroic people living quiet, remarkable lives in our midst, under the big sky."

The stories sometimes result from deliberate searches, when the collaborators took a long day's drive, armed with notebook and camera. Other times, their material came from chance meetings or casual conversations in cafes, saloons or by the roadside.

Readers will meet people who live in small, nearly abandoned communities, who persist in the tradition of living close to the land because they "just like it here." They cherish the wide, open spaces, yet love the close-knit feeling of community with their far-flung neighbors.

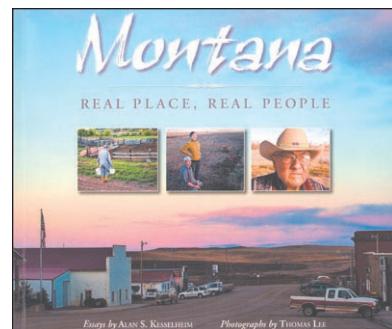
There is a wide diversity to these "real" people; from The Cake Ladies, to a team of biofuel entrepreneurs, to a professional artist, to a philanthropist working to preserve native culture. Meet Elsie Fox, "A Dangerous Woman" at 101 years old, who has an extensive FBI file for her political activism.

All of the people and stories represented in this work have a spark of something special and inspirational. "I look for that moment when their humanity is visible," Lee says of his subjects. "When you see the human being inside in a gesture or an expression."

Kesselheim and Lee have been working together on a series of Montana-based stories for *Montana Quarterly* magazine for nearly a decade. This work represents a portion of this partnership.

This is Kesselheim's 11th book; the avid Bozeman outdoorsman also has published hundreds of stories in magazines. Lee has authored two photography books and was the founding chief photographer for *Montana Quarterly*. He also lives in Bozeman where he operates a commercial photo studio.

– Judith Shafter



Montana Paths

By Gary Tallman
Published 2011 by Sweet Bee Press, Whitefish, MT
\$9.95 softcover

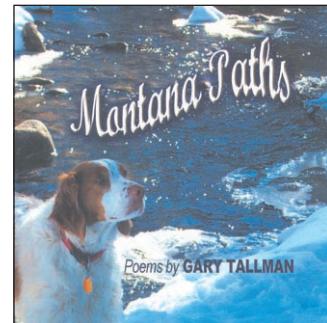
Gary Tallman grew up in Whitefish, and is an avid fly fisherman who has spent a lifetime in Montana's outdoors. Gentle humor, a deep affection for the state's landscape and nostalgia for simpler times permeate this little collection of poems.

Among several odes to fishing, he recalls loading up the Model A for a Sunday excursion with his dad, using a silk line and his father's "simple tackle store" of several flies. "But even in a foray, when flies choose to hatch,/ he always seemed to make it work,/ without the flies to match."

Each season gets treatment here, from winter's "whirling lash" to the return of green each spring, to summer's garden and autumn's harvest, when the author is ready to greet winter "with cordwood stacked and pantry stocked"

Tallman and his wife now reside in Monarch, where they live "at the end of the road, in the mountains, on the creek."

– Kristi Niemeyer



Montana's Home Front During World War II Second Edition

By Gary Glynn
Published 2011 by Big Elk Books, Missoula, MT, and distributed by Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, Missoula
\$19.99 softcover

Gary Glynn has updated his previously published work to include a wealth of new information and many never-before-seen photographs of Montana during the 1940s. The result is a very comprehensive, fascinating account of how the state's population coped with the tragedy of a worldwide military conflict.

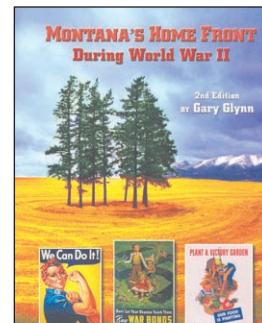
Because of its geographical location, abundant natural resources, sparse population and political leanings, Montana was uniquely affected by the war. For example, Fort Missoula became the site of a massive internment facility for Italian, German and Japanese detainees; the mountains around Helena became a training center for the first elite special forces unit, known as "The Devil's Brigade"; and the small enclave of Rimini was enlisted as a training center for Army war dogs.

Mining of strategic minerals increased dramatically, thus Butte became highly significant for its copper production. Even the cross-state football rivalry between the Bobcats and Grizzlies was suspended until the war concluded.

Learn about Japanese incendiary balloon bombs, designed to ignite forest fires in the West to divert military personnel for fire-fighting duty. Glynn also traces the fate of thousands of POWs held in camps around the state, and offers a look at Montana's political leaders of the time, including Jeannette Rankin, Burton K. Wheeler and a very young Mike Mansfield.

Glynn, a fourth-generation Montanan, is the author of *Historic Photos of Montana* and *Remembering Montana*. He is a frequent contributor to several magazines, wrote the "Home Front" column for the *Missoulian* newspaper, and contributed to that newspaper's series, "Greatest Generation." Research for this book was supported by a Dave Walters Fellowship from the Montana Historical Society.

– Judith Shafter



Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic

By Ginnie Lo, with illustrations by Beth Lo
Published 2012 by Lee and Low Books, Inc., New York, NY
\$18.95 hardcover

Ceramic artist and University of Montana art professor Beth Lo illustrated a new children's story by her sister Ginnie in the latest collaboration between the talented siblings.

Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic tells the true story of a family tradition that started many years ago near Chicago, when Ginnie and Beth's Auntie Yang discovered a soybean farm, tucked between cornfields near her house. The Chinese immigrants were so delighted to find a familiar staple in this new land that they convinced the farmer to let them harvest a few soybeans and carried the stalks and bean pods home in the trunk of their car.

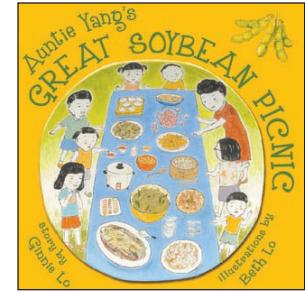
Auntie Yang and her sister taught the four cousins – Pei, Ginger, Ping and Jinyi – the best way to eat soybeans so the salty beans "pop out one by one, all in a row, onto your tongue."

That first feast eventually grew into a tradition that drew the Chinese American community from all over Chicago and filled a city park. "While the grown-ups set up picnic tables, we played hide-and-seek and red rover and flew kites with other kids."

Beth's beautifully illustrated plates, photographed by Chris Autio, give this charming story of generations, knitted together by stories, tradition and the humble little soybean, a flavor as unique as Auntie Yang's picnics.

Ginnie, a retired computer science professor who lives in Eugene, and Beth, who resides in Missoula, also collaborated on the award-winning picture book *Mahjong All Day Long*.

– Kristi Niemeyer



Ben Armstrong's Strange Trip Home

By David Allan Cates
Published May 2012 by Amazon's Create-Space Independent Publishing Platform, Charleston, SC
\$13.95 softcover

"Oh, what a strange trip home! Would there be no waking relief? No solid ground to stand on?" Not for Ben Armstrong, the dream-addled protagonist in the fourth novel by Missoula author David Allan Cates.

He was living his version of a good life, when the apparition of his long-dead mother urged him to head home after a 25-year absence to make peace with his brother. But upon arriving at the farm where he grew up, the 50-year-old Armstrong tumbles into a fantastical realm, where waking and sleeping seem inseparable, where his dead grandmother – chewing pemmican and hobnobbing with spirits – guides him on a journey, where his brother, Danny, turns into a giant fish, and his sister-in-law, Sara, seduces him again and again.

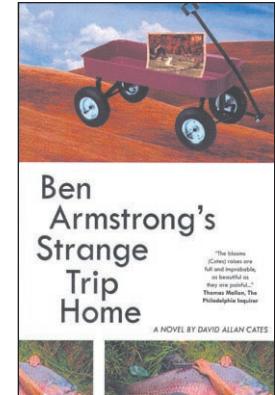
He discovers in this disheveled dreamscape a blood-soaked family history of violence and massacre. "This strange trip home in search of love and self-forgiveness had not worked out so well."

Or had it? Cates has written a mesmerizing story that lurches between dream and reality, through shattered childhood memories and a history that belongs to all of us. Redemption, it seems, comes from self-knowledge, learning "to hold all the possibilities of home again in his heart."

"Endlessly inventive in its language, masterful in its fidelity to its own harsh vision, and symphonic in its impact, this novel builds from a series of perverse fractions to a darkly satisfying whole," writes David James Duncan. And Debra Magpie Earling lauds it as "invitingly mysterious and breathtakingly compelling ... it opens out to mythic possibilities, the strange truth of life."

Cates, who teaches writing and is the executive director of Missoula Medical Aid, has written three previous novels: *Hunger In America*, *X Out of Wonderland* and *Freeman Walker*.

– Kristi Niemeyer



Riding the Rough String Reflections on the American West

By Toby Thompson
Published 2012 by Bangtail Press, Bozeman, MT
\$19.95 softcover

Toby Thompson, a native of Washington, DC, regards himself as a "spiritual Westerner," having succumbed to the region's charms as a teenager, when he arrived in Livingston to work on a ranch in the summer of 1959.

His writings began as journal entries that summer, and for 53 years his stories have been centered in the West. This book is a collection of previously published essays, explorations, profiles and meditations.

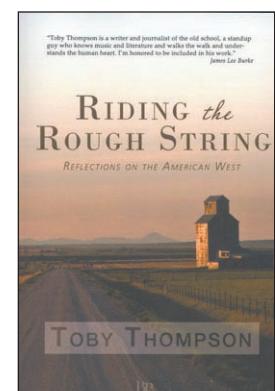
Thompson has sat in author James Lee Burke's Missoula home and listened to him strum his vintage Gibson, had coffee in the kitchen of writers Annick Smith and William Kittredge, hiked with writer and outdoors enthusiast Tim Cahill, and hung out with the cast and crew of the movie, "A River Runs Through It." His interviews are candid, revealing and respectful.

The alleyways of Butte offered a fascinating topic for a piece in 2010. "Alleys are the backs of things, containing much of what citizens wish hidden, but which often reveal more of a city's character than do its facades."

From his book, *Saloon*, there's a terrific piece about Stacey's Bar in Gallatin Gateway. From another book, *The 60's Report*, comes a lengthy piece about his good friend, Thomas McGuane, and a host of celebrities that inhabited the Paradise Valley in the 1960s.

The author has written for several magazines, and previously authored three books, including *Positively Main Street: Bob Dylan's Minnesota*.

Thompson teaches creative nonfiction in the MFA program at Penn State and divides his time between homes in Maryland and Montana.



– Judith Shafter

ABOUT BOOKS

The Bartender's Tale

By Ivan Doig
Published 2012 by Riverhead Books, New York, NY
\$27.95 hardcover

It's clear, after 10 novels and three memoirs (all but two set in Montana), that Ivan Doig's most resonant voice as a writer lives here, in the state where he grew up, the landscape first evoked in *This House of Sky*.

And some of his most authentic characters can be found in young protagonists – Paul Milliron in *The Whistling Season*, and now Rusty Harry, who chronicles his 12th summer in *The Bartender's Tale*.

After a stint with his aunt and two bullying cousins in Arizona, 6-year-old Rusty is reclaimed by his dad, Tom Harry, the proprietor of the "near-mythic" Medicine Lodge saloon in Gros Ventre. They form a peculiar pair: "the bachelor saloonkeeper with a streak of frost in his black pompadour and the inquisitive boy who had been an accident between the sheets."

Although Rusty doesn't spend much time in "the joint," as his dad refers to the saloon, he whiles away after-school hours in the back room, brimming with a trove of items hocked by thirsty customers.

From his perch, where he can eavesdrop on goings-on until bedtime, we meet assorted saloon denizens, including the "editor, star reporter and linotype operator" of the *Weekly Gleaner*, who shows up for a daily spot of scotch; Velma, the local divorcee, who lives off alimony checks, drinks a G-ball, and "scared the daylights out of every man in town"; and the irascible old sheepherder Canada Dan.

Against this colorful backdrop arrives Rusty's soon-to-be sidekick, another 12 year old named Zoe, who shares his penchant for wordplay, tomfoolery and mimicking bar patrons. They become inseparable that summer, as his father's family secrets begin to seep out.

"Doig's writerly ambition is less in plotting than evoking, and it is his obvious pleasure to recreate from the ground up – or the sky down – a prior world, a prior way of being," wrote Sven Birkerts in *The New York Times* about *The Whistling Season*.

The same can be said of the new novel, with its palette of quirky characters, the affectionately rendered environs of a perfect Montana bar, and a return to Fort Peck, the setting for an earlier Doig story, *Bucking the Sun*.

The author is master of an old-fashioned art – immersing readers in a time and place and serving up "a landscape and characters worth caring about" (*USA Today*).

– Kristi Niemeyer

My Journey Reflections on Life from a Cancer Survivor
By Shirley Shirley
Published 2012 by West Bow Press, Bloomington, IN
\$11.95 softcover

"It's cancer, so where do I go from here?" is the first line in the opening poem of Shirley Shirley's autobiographical journey as a cancer survivor. From her diagnosis, through treatment and healing, she records her thoughts in gentle and plain language, profound in its simplicity.

She gives credit to a therapeutic writing class that she took at the Billings Clinic Cancer Center where patients were encouraged to write their thoughts in free-form style and then share them with the class. Shirley embraced the exercise and began to write, not only about her present situation, but also about her past. Memories of childhood pleasures, marrying and raising a family, travels, recreational outings and the coming of grandchildren are recorded in her poems.

She notes that cancer is a journey that a person does not take alone. It involves family, friends, and the people that are there to help. It is these people whom she pays tribute to in her work, and hopes that "throughout, readers will be lifted by the experiences" that she shares.

The author lives in the mountains of southeastern Montana with her husband, Dr. Robert Shirley. She previously authored *Restoring the Tallgrass Prairie* in 1994. Her other talents include painting, knitting and creating copper jewelry.

– Judith Shafter

The Conjuror

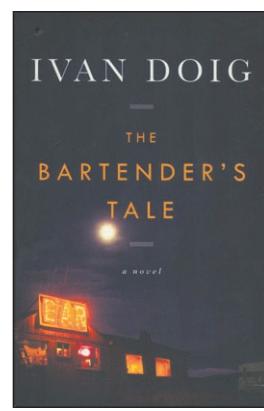
By Doug Christi
Published 2012 by Christopher Matthews Publishing, Bozeman, MT
\$12.95 softcover; \$4.99 ebook

U.S. Marshal Cameron Piquet is the Justice Department's best investigator. To stop a serial killer nicknamed The Exterminator, he is partnered with long-time rival, FBI Special Agent Kevin Riddick. The case becomes a race against time when Piquet discovers that the killer is the Angel of Death, summoned by a powerful conjurer who wants the marshal dead.

Enlisting the aid of Dr. Marion Fullbright, an abrasive forensic genius, and beautiful psychic Sarah Gilliard, Piquet must come to terms with his troubled past and break the fiendish spell before The Exterminator sends him to his grave.

The first novel in Christi's Marshal Cameron Piquet series is aimed at readers aged 17 and older interested in magic, witchcraft, psychic phenomenon and romance.

The author was born and raised in Deer Lodge and has worked as a staff writer for the *Silver State Post* and written more than 35 short stories.



Fobbit

By David Abrams
Published 2012 by Grove/Atlantic, Inc., New York, NY
\$15 softcover

This debut novel by Butte author David Abrams evolved from the notes he scribed in his daily journal while stationed at Camp Liberty, "spitting distance from Abu Ghraib prison," in Baghdad, Iraq.

His assignment as an Army spokesman to the press rarely required him to leave the relative safety of the Forward Operating Base compound, thus classifying him as a Fobbit. The author, in defining the term, says that many of these soldiers "were all about making it out of Iraq in one piece."

The story unfolds through a cadre of characters that brings to life the absurdities, the ironies, the terror and humility of life in the midst of a war zone. The comedy is dark, hilarious and simultaneously tragic.

The agony of "spinning" the war news to make it palatable for the press was part of Abrams's job, and in the novel, he assigns this task to Staff Sergeant Gooding. Abrams claims to possess characteristics of a few of his subjects in the book, but once he created the characters, he says they evolved on their own.

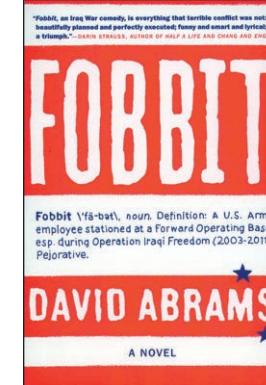
Readers will meet Captain Abe Shrinkle, the "Care Package King" who hoards boxes of goodies sent by well-meaning folks, particularly from America's Heartland. Of these gifts of cookies, magazines and soaps, Abrams poignantly wrote, "It was incredible how the screech of pulling tape across the flaps of just one box could bring spiritual harmony to a person, make her feel like she was doing Something that Mattered."

Fobbit has been compared to Joseph Heller's novel, *Catch-22*, and the reader may recall scenes from episodes of TV's *M.A.S.H.* series. Abrams says he did not set out to write an anti-war novel, but rather an "anti-stupidity novel." Workplace incompetence is not unique to the military, it's just more anguishing when it occurs in a combat environment.

Author Tom McGuane says of *Fobbit*, "This delightful, readable, believable and useful book made me furious!" It was chosen as a Fall 2012 Barnes & Noble Discover pick, a September 2012 Indie Next pick and one of *Publishers Weekly's* Best Books for Fall 2012.

The author served in the military for 20 years. He currently resides in Butte, where he maintains *The Quivering Pen*, a blog about books.

– Judith Shafter



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Send us book ideas

Two Helena publishing companies welcome book ideas.

Farcountry Press invites writers, photographers, and illustrators to submit their book ideas for consideration.

Farcountry publishes award-winning books on regional popular history, natural history and national parks for a general audience and for children. The company also publishes color photography books on regions, states, cities and national parks, but generally does not publish poetry or fiction.

Please send book proposals to: Acquisitions, PO Box 5630, Helena, MT 59604. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or your materials will not be returned, and do not send original art or photographs. For more information, visit www.farcountrypress.com.

Riverbend Publishing also welcomes book proposals about Montana and the West. The company publishes award-winning books on regional history, natural history, photography and Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, plus cookbooks and fiction.

Send proposals to Editor, Riverbend Publishing, PO Box 5833, Helena, MT 59604. Visit www.riverbendpublishing.com for more information about the company.

Menacing Face Worth Millions

A Life of Charles Bronson
By Brian D'Ambrosio
Published 2012 by Schiff Books, Philadelphia, PA
\$17.99 softcover

In this first fully documented biography of actor Charles Bronson, Missoula author Brian D'Ambrosio scrutinizes the vigilante tough guy and explores the events and issues that made him emblematic of his time.

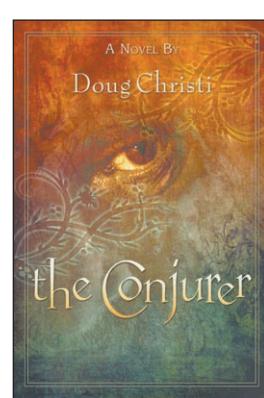
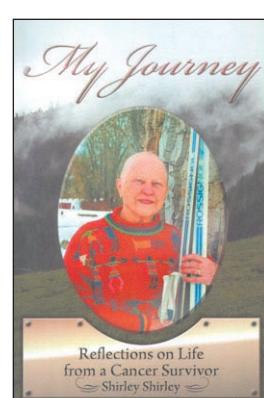
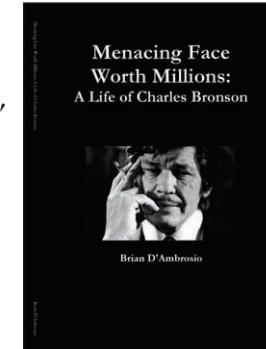
Bronson was the silver screen legend who forever changed America's – and the world's – idea of the leading man's looks. He was a poverty-stricken young man who became one of the most popular, highly paid film stars of his day. But D'Ambrosio's book reveals that no movie he made can equal the reclusive life he led, or the contradictions in his private life.

Although Bronson has largely been panned by critics and film historians, during the height of his film career, his name was a huge draw at the box office. The man with the countenance of stone was all the rage in Europe, possibly even more popular than at any single period of acclaim in the United States. The French dubbed his austere appearance "Le Sacre Monstre," the Holy Monster; Italians labeled him as "Il Brutto," the Ugly One; and Iranian children cried at the end of "The Magnificent Seven" when Mexican kids buried Bronson's Bernardo O'Reilly character.

"With his reputation for being a loner, Bronson was so remote, so determinedly on his own, that he embodied the anguished, self-driven man awkwardly straddling the pathos of yesterday and the bountifulness of present," writes D'Ambrosio. "... Fans admired his unconventional-yet-personable inscrutability, and wished to know him better. Many still do."

Menacing Face seeks to separate facts from myth and uncover the man behind the legend – "to intrigue and, if fortunate, to inspire a new generation of devotees."

Articles by the Missoula writer, editor, instructor and media consultant have been published in local, regional and national publications, including *High Country News*, *USA Today*, *Montana Magazine* and *Backpacker Magazine*.



Goosetown In Their Own Words, 1900-1945

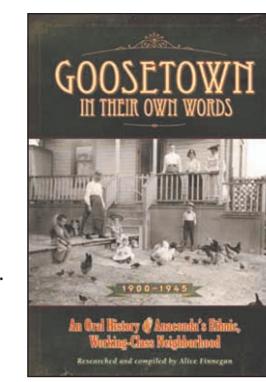
By Alice Finnegan
Published August 2012 by the author and distributed by Far Country Press, Helena
\$17.95 softcover; \$24.95 hardcover

Author and historian Alice Finnegan offers a glimpse of the rich history of Anaconda through the real-life stories of residents who lived in Goosetown, located on the community's east side.

Finnegan originally started working on the book in 1967 while researching her family roots. Her interest in Anaconda's history grew, and eventually she co-founded and became the volunteer director of the Tri-County Historical Society.

From there, she started working with the Montana Historical Society and served on its Oral History Board, which ultimately spurred her to record and document the area's oral history.

Woven into the text are black and white photographs. "Many of my interviewees had such a sense of humor in telling their stories. I am thankful we have saved them," says the Anaconda native, who works as a secretary for St. Paul's Parish and Warm Springs State Hospital.





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Organization aids and represents freelance writers

Founded in 1948, the American Society of Journalists and Authors (ASJA) is the nation's professional organization of independent nonfiction writers, and consists of more than 1,300 freelance writers of magazine articles, trade books, and many other forms of nonfiction writing.

ASJA offers benefits and services focusing on professional development, including regular confidential market information, meetings with editors and others in the field, a referral service, seminars and workshops, discount services, and the opportunity for members to explore professional issues and concerns with their peers.

ASJA also represents freelancers' interests, serving as spokesman for their right to control and profit from uses of their work in the new media and otherwise. It also helps provide ready access to writers proven in the marketplace, capable of producing articles, books, brochures and scripts through its Freelance Writer Search.

ASJA headquarters are in New York City, and the society has active regional chapters throughout the U.S.

Learn more at www.asja.org.

ABOUT POETRY

Forgotten Dreams

By Mark Gibbons, and featuring seven portraits by Lee Nye from the Eddie's Club Collection
Published July 2012 by FootHills Publishing, Kanona, NY
\$16 softcover

Mark Gibbons, the hardest-working man in Poe-biz, has written what I consider his finest collection. Tender and brutal, honest and unsparing, Gibbons catalogues a lifetime of hard physical labor, and the history of an Irish family bedeviled by drink. There's social observation, and pure emotions made real.

Gibbons, his life dedicated to literature, has worked the most difficult, body-grinding occupations, piloting 18-wheelers up and down mountains on dark roads, guided by moonlight, hauling furniture, lugging pianos up stairs for fussy clients, covering the state of Montana from the cab of his big rig, observing and detailing everything that matters.

Like the faces of the men in Lee Nye's photographs, which adorn this collection, this is the shadow side of the working man's toil and appetite and God-longing; of the drink and what it does, and, in the end, how love endures.

Gibbons's poem, dedicated to his father, Vince, calls him, "A wolf man/ tumbling out of control ...".

And this, from "Luck of the Irish":
my mother and me talking

at the kitchen table
about my dad dead-drunk in the bed
& the hateful shit he said
to her & me. She made sure
I knew that wasn't my father,
the man we loved in there
it was the boozy devil
inside all sad men.

FORGOTTEN DREAMS



Mark Gibbons

This poem, the best account ever of the "luck" of the Irish, shows the necessity to cope, and more importantly, to continue loving, tightly bound to blood, even a world away.

There is no decoration in Gibbons's poetry, no ornaments or posturing. These life pieces are from a man who has experienced life hands-on, no apologies or regrets, and still sings for beauty.

The noise of the ruling warmongers and profiteers is deafening, but Gibbons's voice is strong and clear, ferocious, with chromatic invitations to dream. These are prayers, requiems, love letters; all of it driven with the intensity of the poet to connect soul-to-soul, which I believe he accomplishes.

The Missoula poet's new book is part of the Montana Poets Series, edited by Craig Czury, and is his fifth collection of poems.

— Sheryl Noethe,
Poet Laureate of Montana

Half-Blind Mirror, Poems

By Bill Lovelady
Published May 2012 by The Neighborhood Office, Helena, MT
\$11.95 softcover

Helena poet Bill Lovelady, a veteran of World War II and avowed pacifist, has written poems for most of his multi-hued life. He grew up in Texas during the Depression, fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and has worked as teacher, methods engineer, social worker and home builder: "a carpenter who drives nails/ but four months a year,/ a writer who doesn't write,/ a gardener who doesn't hoe."

Childhood, family, war, death, marriage (62 years!), the schism between life and religion, all find their way into this slender chapbook.

"In Praise of Rodney Street" pays homage to "The blocks that howl at night,/ sleep in the day, section/ in the shadow of the cathedral,/ stretch that is conveniently close/ to places to pawn a toaster,/ the city jail and mortuaries ..."

His gritty poems about WWII capture the despair, terror and hypocrisy of war: "knowing we won't feel cold/ when we're lying face down/ in a field of pink disgracing snow."

His daughter, Georgia, notes in the introduction that her father is "as unsentimental about death as he is about the 'good war.'" He steps sprightly toward "the other shore" to the music of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys in "Goodbye, y'all": "And I'll down a snort of muscatel/ rose red and sweet and tender/ and Texas two-step off the edge/ into the bony arms of chaos."

— Kristi Niemeyer

Killing the Murnion Dogs

By Joe Wilkins
Published 2011 by Black Lawrence Press, Pittsburgh, PA
\$14 softcover

Joe Wilkins, who grew up north of the Bull Mountains in eastern Montana, crafts "patient, vulnerable, angry and unapologetically romantic poems" in his first full-length collection, writes poet and essayist Lia Purpura.

In the title poem, raw and sad, his father kills the neighbor's dogs ("seven slick little cow dogs and that night/ they were all fast and wild, their jaws clicking") after they kill his herd of sheep. It's about his father's death too, three years later — a father "I don't remember outside of sickness and death."

Wilkins, who taught at public schools in the Mississippi Delta, also writes vividly about that experience, a northerner in the

Continued on next page

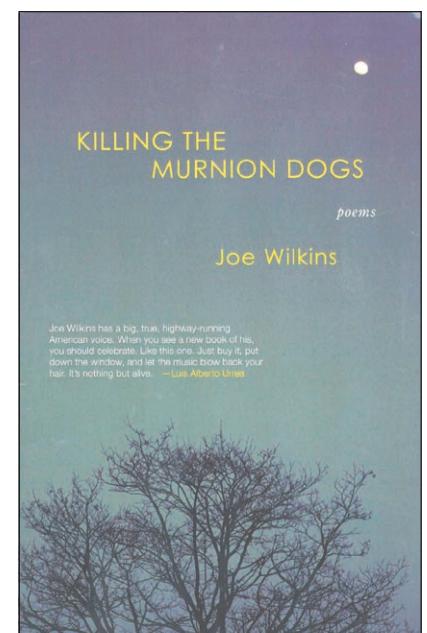


Photo by Kurt Wilson

MONTANA POET LAUREATE

Reservation School by Sheryl Noethe

The poet asks the children to hold their breath and keep still.
Eyes wide, hands covering mouths, they look around at each other.
Not wanting to break the moment until they gasp and laugh.

Now, he says, write about the silence.
Silence is a rock not moving in a lake

Says the brown haired 4th grader in a whisper.
I nod, and a few children like that, they begin
Nodding their heads at beautiful thoughts.

A little girl in braids with a waist as narrow as a wasp
Reads from her poem.
Silence is a sad sob in the night

Wow! I say. Oh Man! Could you repeat that?
She shrugs, tosses off the line, which circles the room.

A boy with a cut on his finger shakes it and puts it in his mouth.
Silence is an empty jar in an old house.
He shows me the hurt finger again.

A little cowgirl stands and waits for quiet to say,
Silence is a window not opened

We smile tenderly at each other.
Nod. In this sudden outbreak of splendor we are happy to be together.
Finally, the boy who was working on his drawing says,
Silence is in a bottle and a basket

This is the end of class time, and everyone lines up
to exchange high fives and congratulations.
Silence is when my baby sister is asleep
Silence is cats wondering.

I roll this afternoon around in my mouth.
Something sweeter than a ripe peach or custard,
How close the soul can come to the skin
When the body is still so new.

NATIVE NEWS

One-woman play blends memories, music

Julie Cajune didn't think she was a playwright. The Salish educator and well-known spokesperson for the rights of Native people resisted the thought that she could write creative work. Until now.

Her one-woman show "Belief" opens at 7 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts. The show is a collaboration between Cajune, Salish poet Jennifer Finley-Greene and director Linda Grinde. All three have been involved in the K'K'usm Theatre Project in Arlee.

A musical ensemble of violinist Swil Kanim, world flautist Gary Stroutsos, and Grammy-nominated composer and pianist David Lanz have created an original musical score and will accompany Cajune's performance at the premiere in Bigfork.

The production is part poetry, part storytelling, and part memoir. The idea for the project came to Cajune after performing an impromptu telling of her mother's recollec-



Salish educator and activist Julie Cajune wrote and stars in a one-woman play, "Belief," which premieres in Bigfork.

(Photo by Gary Stroutsos)

tions of growing up on the lower Flathead River during a flute concert that she had arranged for Stroutsos.

The audience loved the combination of music and story. People told Cajune that they wanted more, so she approached Grinde with

an idea "to put some pieces together to perform with music."

"As the project began to take shape," Grinde says, "Julie kept telling these wonderful stories. I would say 'write that one' and she would say 'I'm not a writer'."

But Grinde persisted and the stories started coming together.

"One day Julie looked at me and she said 'this is ceremony,' and I knew we had our show."

Grinde, a veteran actress and director, says "the poetry and stories in the show lead one to trust that there is greatness in the little mysteries of life. It is at once funny, touching, sad, and ultimately inspirational."

"I think it has great universal appeal and the music is amazing," she adds.

For more information contact the Arlee Community Development Corporation at 406-726-5550 or purchase tickets online at www.arleemontana.com.

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ART 21 profiles installation at Cleveland Clinic

Photographer Catherine Opie describes her intentions behind the permanent installation, "Somewhere in the Middle" (2011), at Hillcrest Hospital, a branch of Cleveland Clinic, in Mayfield Heights, OH, during an episode of the PBS series, ART 21, titled "Change."

Created specifically for the hospital setting, the installation consists of 22 photographs taken from the shores of Lake Erie near Opie's hometown of Sandusky, OH. It is Opie's hope that the photographs provide a space for patients, doctors, visitors and hospital employees to experience an ethereal moment during what may be a difficult time in their lives.

For more on the program, which aired April 14, go to www.art21.org/artists/catherine-opie.

New book highlights legacy of Crow Elder

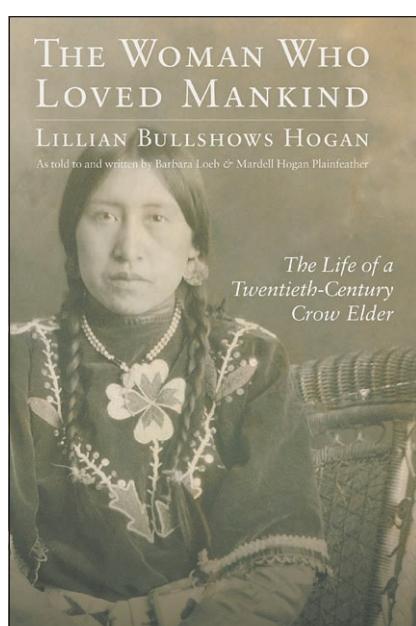
The Woman Who Loved Mankind: The Life of a Twentieth-Century Crow Elder
By Lillian Bullshows Hogan, as told to Mardell Hogan Plainfeather and Barbara Loeb
Published 2012 by the University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, NE
\$60 hardcover

The Woman Who Loved Mankind is the captivating chronicle of the life of 20th century Crow elder Lillian Bullshows Hogan, as told to her daughter and Crow oral historian, Mardell Hogan Plainfeather, and writer and scholar Barbara Loeb.

The oldest living Crow at the dawn of the 21st century, Hogan (1905–2003) grew up on the Crow reservation in rural Montana. In *The Woman Who Loved Mankind* she enthralls readers with her own long and remarkable life and the stories of her parents, who were part of the last generation of Crow born to nomadic ways.

As a child, Hogan had a miniature teepee, a fast horse, and a medicine necklace of green beads; she learned traditional arts and food gathering from her mother and experienced the bitterness of Indian boarding school.

She grew up to be a complex, hard-work-



ing Native woman who drove a car, maintained a bank account, and read the local English paper. She also spoke Crow as her first language, practiced beadwork, tanned hides, honored clan relatives in generous giveaways, and often visited the last of the old chiefs and berdaches with her family. She married in the traditional Crow way and was a proud member of the Tobacco and Sacred Pipe societies, but was also a devoted Christian who helped establish the Church of God on her reservation.

Warm, funny, heart-breaking, and filled with information on Crow life, Hogan's story was told to her daughter, and to Loeb, a scholar and longtime friend of the family who recorded her words, staying true to Hogan's expressive speaking rhythms with its echoes of traditional Crow storytelling.

"The stories are important because they help us remember what others have gone through and because those who came before us made us what we are today," says Plainfeather. "We are Apsálooke, and I don't want any of my descendants to forget the many chapters of our history."

Loeb adds, "I wanted to preserve Lillian's vivid voice, as well as her words. In truth, I wanted her to speak to readers from the page, but every time I put her beautiful stories into paragraphs, they became awkward and repetitive."

Loeb says she spent years searching for a

new approach and finally decided to break to the next line each time her subject paused. "As soon as I made that change, the stories regained their grace."

Here is an example – an excerpt from a story from Lillian's childhood in which an old lady is speaking to Lillian's mother:

"She's a kind little girl" she says.
"She's kind to me – therefore,
I'm going to give her a necklace,
this green necklace."

Says "I have some [green beads] in my stomach" she says "and I keep them there. They're my Medicine" she says, "but you get her a string of green beads, and let her wear that, she grow to be a big, good woman" she said.

"The stories have been a joy and an education for me," Loeb continues, "and I hope readers will enjoy and learn from them, too."

She also hopes Hogan's stories help Crow Indians "step into the history one of their elders," scholars of Plains culture gain access to additional perspectives, and those new to Crow culture "be welcomed into a different world, where a woman might keep a medicine power in her stomach."

Loeb taught Native art history at Oregon State University. She is the author of *Felice Lucero-Giaccardo: A Contemporary Pueblo Painter* and numerous writings on Crow and Plateau Indian art and culture.

Plainfeather is retired as a supervisory park ranger with the National Park Service and as a Crow field director of the American Indian Tribal Histories Project at the Western Heritage Center in Billings.

For more information about this book, visit www.ywhc.org.

Killing the Murnion Dogs (from previous page)

Deep South: "... but I'm talking about America here –/ the rot-wood/ of The River Hotel in Cairo, shotgun shacks set back/ in the trees,/ or a street in south Memphis, blue neon/ hissing, rage of a cigarette, the warehouse door/ banging on its hinge."

The seasons, the animals, the drought and harshness of his birthplace are woven into the life that comes after, as in "Letter to Paul from Sunflower": ... this place is deep/ with ghosts. Do you remember that Sunday, driving Montana? Just the two of us, tall grass/ and sky? Brother, you are far away,/ and America is so suddenly old."

Novelist Luis Alberto Urrea suggests readers pick up the new book, "put down the window, and let the music blow back your hair. It's nothing but alive."

The author lives in north Iowa and teaches writing at Waldorf College. He's written a memoir, *The Mountain and the Fathers*, and a previous chapbook, *Ragged Point Road*, and his poems, essays and stories have appeared in several publications.

– Kristi Niemeyer



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Broad Comedy returns to Bozeman

Those irreverent, envelope-pushing actresses of Broad Comedy are back with an all-new show, 8 p.m. Nov. 15-18 at the Emerson Cultural Center in Bozeman. And literally "back" this time, as writer-directors Katie Goodman and Soren Kisiel have been in New York with Goodman's solo show, which is running at several venues across Manhattan. She's also part of the New York Comedy Festival, Nov. 7-11, with the likes of Robin Williams and Brian Regan.

Broad Comedy is Bozeman's lovable and provocative women's musical satire and sketch comedy show. Together, they promise to ease the election blues and revive the satirical spirit with songs about the candidates and comedy about Bozeman and women's issues and shenanigans (rated R, of course).

The Broads have won many accolades over the years, including the Best of The Vancouver Fringe Festival, a three-month run in Boston's 440-seat Stuart Street Playhouse and a three-month smash run in Los Angeles which garnered them a nomination for the EPIC Award offered by The White House Project.

For more information, call 406-522-7623, or www.broadcomedy.com.

ARTS CALENDAR – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Anaconda

December 6

Ladies Night Out
- 6 p.m., Elks Club,
Copper Village Mu-
seum and Arts Center,
406-563-2422

Augusta

December 2

Christmas Rendezvous
- 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.,
downtown,
406-562-3665

Avon

November 18

Country Christmas Ba-
zaar - 10 a.m.-4 p.m.,
Community Center,
406-492-7091

Big Sky

December 5

Madrigal Dinner - 5 p.m.,
Buck's T-4, 406-995-2742

Bigfork

November 8-10

Dinner Theatre: "Much Ado About Murder"
- 7:30 p.m., Brumar Estate, 406-837-4886

November 17

Bigfork Holiday Art Walk - 3-7 p.m., downtown,
406-837-5335

November 23-25

"The Nutcracker" - Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-755-0760

December 7

Glacier Symphony and Chorale: Handel's Messiah
- 7:30 p.m., Blessed Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 406-257-3241

December 8

A Touch of Christmas - 7:30 p.m., Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-837-4886

December 14-16, 21-22

"A Christmas Carol" - Crossroads Christian Fellowship Church, 406-837-4886

Billings

November 2

Black Tie Blue Jeans Benefit - 5:30 p.m., Billings Hotel and Convention Center, 406-657-1005
Carlos Mencia - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

November 3

"Coming to the Table" - 6 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

November 5

Dropkick Murphys - 7 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384

November 8-10

Art for the Ages - Kathy Lillis Chapel, 406-655-5218

November 9

The Art of Brew - 5:30-9 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

November 10

Billings Symphony: Big Band Salute to the USO
- 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-252-3610

November 10-11

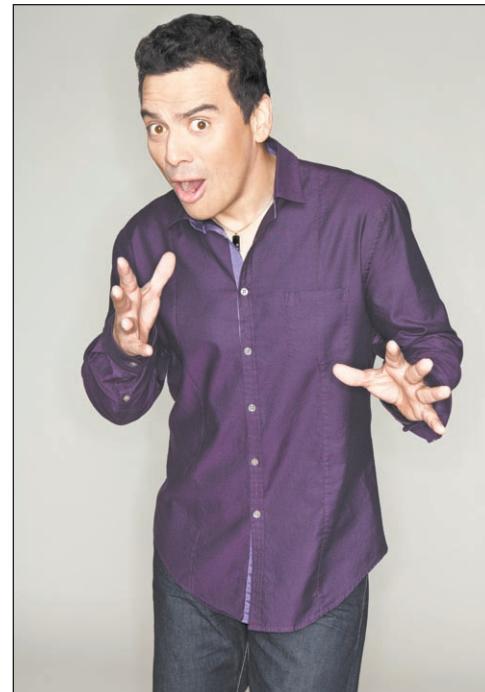
Huff's Antique Show and Sale - MetraPark, 406-256-2404

November 11, December 9

Shall We Dance - 4-7 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384

November 14

Billings Symphony: Video Games Live - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052
Dinos and Beasts of Montana Lecture Series - 7 p.m., Rocky Mountain Fortin Center Auditorium, 406-657-1101



Comedian Carlos Mencia makes stops in Billings and Missoula with his high-current man-on-the-street interviews, commercial parodies and studio comedy.



Broad Comedy brings an all-new, post-election review to Bozeman's Emerson stage – courtesy of directors and writers Katie Goodman and Soren Kisiel – that includes songs about Bozeman, women's issues and shenanigans.

November 16-17

Acquire the Fire - MetraPark, 406-256-2400

November 17

"Girls Night - The Musical" - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

November 17-18

Holiday Food and Gift Festival - MetraPark, 406-696-6585

November 24-25

Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet - Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-3610

November 29

"A Christmas with CS Lewis" - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-249-0394

November 29-December 2

Festival of Trees - Shrine Auditorium, 406-252-9799

November 29, December 1-2, 4

MSU Billings Department of Music Concerts, 406-657-2350

November 30, December 1-2, 6-9, 13-16

"A Christmas Carol" - Billings Studio Theatre, 406-248-1141

November 30, December 1, 7-8, 14-15, 21-22

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" - 8 p.m., Venture Theatre, 406-591-9535

November 30-December 2

Sesame Street Live "Elmo's Super Heroes" - MetraPark, 406-256-2400

December 1

Holiday Tour of Homes - noon-4 p.m., various locations, 406-252-3610

"Miracle on 34th Street" - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

Writers' Roundup - noon-5 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-657-2954

December 3

The Tragically Hip - 9 p.m., Babcock Theater, 406-259-7123

December 7

Billings Artwalk - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-259-6563

December 7-8

"Figg Pudding 2: Revenge of the Fruitcake" - 8 p.m., Holiday Inn Montana Grand Convention Center, 406-591-3335

Winterfair - Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

December 12

Canadian Brass Christmas - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

December 22

Signing: Stan Lynde - 2-4 p.m., Barnes and Noble, 406-495-1020

December 31

The Texas Tenors - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

Boulder

December 1

Christmas Bazaar - Jefferson High School Gym, Boulder Area Chamber of Commerce, 406-465-2106

Bozeman

November 2

Element Film Festival - 6 p.m., Emerson Center, 406-994-2484

November 3

Elise Event - 6:30 p.m., MSU Black Box Theater, 406-994-3310

Mary McCaslin - 7:30 p.m., Pilgrim Congregational Church, 406-586-4123

November 3, 10

Silly Moose Improv - 2 p.m., Equinox Theatre, 406-587-0737 ext. 1

November 8

An Intimate Evening with Judy Collins - 7:30 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885

November 10

Metropolitan Opera Series: "The Tempest" - 10:55 a.m., Hollywood Theaters-Gallatin Valley Cinema, 406-326-3264

November 15-17

Broad Comedy - 8 p.m., Emerson Center, 406-522-7623

November 15

David Sedaris - 7:30 p.m., MSU Strand Union Ballroom, 406-994-2287

Le Vent du Nord - 7:30 p.m., MSU Reynolds Recital Hall, 406-994-3562

November 18

High Tea With Clara - 10 a.m., 12:30 and 3 p.m., Baxter Ballroom, 406-582-8702

November 23-24

Holiday Festival of the Arts - Gallatin County Fairgrounds, Bozeman Help Center, 406-580-0967

November 24, December 1, 8, 15, 22
"Bert and Charlie's Unconventional Christmas Carol" - 2 p.m., Equinox Theatre, 406-587-0737 ext. 1

December 1-2

Bozeman Symphony: "The Nutcracker" - Willson Auditorium, 406-585-9774
Madrigal Dinner - 6:30 p.m., MSU Strand Union Ballroom, 406-994-2287

December 1

Metropolitan Opera Series: "La Clemenza di Tito" - 10:55 a.m., Hollywood Theaters-Gallatin Valley Cinema, 406-326-3264
December 7-9, 14-16, 19-23
"A Christmas Carol" - Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885

December 7-8, 14-15, 21-22

"Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You" - 8 p.m., Equinox Theatre, 406-587-0737 ext. 1
December 8-9
Bozeman Symphony: Magnificat - Willson Auditorium, 406-585-9774

December 8

Metropolitan Opera Series: "Un Ballo in Maschera" - 10:55 a.m., Hollywood Theaters-Gallatin Valley Cinema, 406-326-3264

December 15

Metropolitan Opera Series: "Aida" - 10:55 a.m., Hollywood Theaters-Gallatin Valley Cinema, 406-326-3264

December 16

"Rock of Ages" - 7 p.m., Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 406-994-CATS

December 31

Bozeman Symphony: A Night in Vienna - 6:30 p.m., Emerson Center Ballroom, 406-585-9774

Butte

November 1

BeeGees Tribute Band - 8 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, 406-723-3602

November 3

"A Night in Havana" - 6 p.m.-midnight, Front Street Station, 406-723-5590

November 10

"Scrambled McManus" - 8 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, 406-723-3602

November 12

Legacy

ARTS CALENDAR – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Eureka

November 2

Toast of the Town - 6 p.m., Four Corners Restaurant, 406-297-0197

November 30

Okaidja and Shokoto - 7 p.m., Lincoln County High School Auditorium, 406-889-3657

Fort Benton

December 2

Chouteau County Performing Arts Christmas Concert - 3 p.m., Fort Benton Elementary School Auditorium, 406-750-2918

Gallatin Gateway

November 30

Madrigal Dinner - 6:30 p.m., Gallatin Gateway Inn, 406-763-4672

Glasgow

November 12

Okaidja and Shokoto - 7 p.m., Glasgow High School, Northeastern Arts Network, 406-489-4304

November 17

AAUW Bazaar and Craft Show - 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Civic Center, 406-228-2747

Great Falls

November 1, 8

Armchair Travelers' Series - 7 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349

November 2, December 7

First Friday Art Walk - 6-9 p.m., downtown, 406-761-7156

November 2

Harvest Howl featuring The Amazing Rhythm Aces - 5:30 p.m., Montana ExpoPark, 406-781-7343

November 2, 9, 16, 30, December 7

No Shame Theater - 11 p.m., University of Great Falls Theatre, 406-791-5367

November 3

Great Falls Symphony Orchestra: "Symphonie Fantastique" - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-453-4102

November 4

Cahal Dunne - 2:30 p.m., Mansfield Theater, 406-455-8514

November 9

Banff Mountain Film Festival - 7 p.m., Mansfield Theater, 406-455-8514

November 9-11, 15-17

"Chicago" - University of Great Falls Theatre, 406-791-5367

November 9-11

Holiday Open House - C.M. Russell Museum, 406-727-8787

November 10

Bargain Market - 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Montana ExpoPark, 406-791-1420

Magician Eric Spragg - 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Amazing Toys, 406-727-5557

November 17-18

Holiday Happenings - Montana Expo Park Exhibition Hall, 406-736-5727

November 18

Youth Orchestra Concert: "Giving Thanks" - 2 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-453-4102

November 21

Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-455-8514

December 2

Great Falls Symphony Orchestra and Choir: "Hallelujah Holidays" - 3 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-453-4102

December 6-8

Holiday Open House - 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Eve Pottery, 406-452-9155

December 15

Signing: Stan Lynde - 1-4 p.m., Barnes and Noble, 406-495-1020

Hamilton

November 2, December 7

First Friday - 6-8 p.m., downtown, 406-363-2400

November 2-4

Holly Jolly Craft Show and Sale - Daly Mansion, 406-363-6004, ext. 3

November 6

Marjorie A. Crawford Literature Seminar: We - 9:30-11:30 a.m., Bitterroot Public Library, 406-363-5220

November 9

"Going Viral" - 7 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center, 406-363-3338

November 10

Vienna Teng - 8 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center, 406-363-7946

November 14

Synchronicity and The Sacred Space - 7 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center, 617-625-0907

November 15

Lecture: "Two Gals Gossiping About Early Montana" - 6-7:30 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338

November 16-17

Bitterroot Art Guild Christmas Show - First Interstate Building, Ravalli Fairgrounds, 406-821-4678

December 15

Community Christmas Party - 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Daly Mansion, 406-363-6004, ext. 3



Synchronicity and The Sacred Space is a collaboration of Boston's Weber Dance and Montana author and adventurer Jon Turk. This impassioned performance appears on stage in Hamilton, Whitefish and Missoula.

December 21

Mark O'Connor and Friends; "An Appalachian Christmas" - 8 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center, 406-363-7946

December 27

"Beowulf" - 6-7:30 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338

Hardin

November 9-10

Christmas Bazaar - Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287
Great Russian Nutcracker - 7 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-447-8481

November 17

Argentine Tango - 8 p.m.-midnight, Montana Club Ballroom, 406-431-6303

November 18

Peter Oprisko - 7:30 p.m., Gateway Center, 406-227-9711

November 24

Signing: Stan Lynde - 3-5 p.m., Montana Book and Toy Company, 406-443-0260

November 24-25

"The Nutcracker" - Helena Civic Center, Queen City Ballet, 406-444-5004

November 29, December 1-2

Festival of Trees: "25 Years of Tradition" - Helena Civic Center, Mountain Home, 406-442-7920

November 30-December 2, December 8-9

"A Christmas Pudding" - Carroll College Theatre, 406-447-4304

November 30, December 1-2, 5-9, 12-16

"Annie" - Grandstreet Theatre, 406-447-1574

November 30-December 2

Holiday Pottery Sale - Free Ceramics on Boulder Ave., 406-438-6212

December 1

Metropolitan Opera Series: "La Clemenza di Tito" - 10:55 a.m., Great Northern 8 Cinemas, 406-442-4225

December 2

Helena Symphony: Handel's Messiah - 7:30 p.m., Cathedral of St. Helena, 406-442-1860

December 8

Metropolitan Opera Series: "Un Ballo in Maschera" - 10:55 a.m., Great Northern 8 Cinemas, 406-442-4225

December 9

Helena Symphony: Family Holiday Concert with Kid Konductors - 3 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-442-1860

December 12

Traditional Advent Lessons and Carols - 7 p.m., St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral, 406-442-5175

December 14

25th Anniversary Gala - Holter Museum of Art, 406-442-6400

Deadline for the January/February Arts Calendar is Nov. 23, 2012

TO SUBMIT AN EVENT:

- www.livelytimes.com,

- click on submit an event

- email: writeus@livelytimes.com

- to send by mail:

Lively Times, 33651 Eagle Pass Trail, Charlo, MT 59824



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Elise Event benefits Shakespeare in the Schools

A performance of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" highlights a benefit to support the Montana Shakespeare in the Schools program. The annual fundraiser, called The Elise Event as a tribute to patron Elise Donohue, begins at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 3 at Montana State University's Black Box Theater in Bozeman. The evening features a performance followed by a behind-the-scenes discussion with Montana Shakespeare in the Parks' Artistic Director Joel Jahnke and the troupe's actors and designers, as well as a catered reception with wine and appetizers.

Jahnke said the event is important because the schools in Montana and Wyoming, where Shakespeare in the Schools performs, can only cover 25 percent of the actual costs of the tour. Grants and corporate sponsors make up a portion of the difference, but a significant amount must come from individual donors.

Tickets are \$40; call 406-994-3901 for reservations. For more information about Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, see shakespeareintheparks.org.

Continued on next page



The Abrams Brothers bring their distinct sound to Helena and Lewistown. The Ontario-based trio, comprised of fourth-generation musicians, has been touring together for nearly a decade and delight their audiences with a variety of bluegrass, country and folk-rock.



ARTS CALENDAR – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Montana film would be co-produced with China

Wild Horses Productions and Rocky Mountain Ballet Theatre of Missoula are in negotiations with Wanhai Cartoon Company and China Film Group Corporation to produce the feature-length motion picture, "Rainballs."

The film is based on a true story of a grieving mother who comes to terms with the loss of her son to cancer by creating a visionary ballet in China and embracing an extraordinary new chapter of her life.

Producers says "Rainballs" would be shot in Montana, Los Angeles and in Beijing, China, and the Guangxi Province, Montana's sister state, and would mark the first-ever Montana and China co-production. Principals from Wild Horses Productions and Rocky Mountain Ballet Theatre recently returned from scouting locations in Beijing and Guilin, China.

Choreographer Charlene Campbell Carey plans to utilize stellar dance talent from the National Ballet of China, Beijing Dance Academy and Rocky Mountain Ballet Theatre.

According to Campbell Carey, the film is an evolution of Rocky Mountain Ballet Theatre's visits to China in 2008 and 2010.

For more information, visit rainballs.com.

Livingston (cont.)

November 30

Holiday Stroll
- 4-8:30 p.m., downtown, 406-222-6510

Malta

November 13

Okaidja and Shokoto
- 7 p.m., Malta High School, Northeastern Arts Network, 406-489-4304

Miles City

November 3

Wine, Food and Spirits Festival - 7 p.m., The Omni Center, 406-234-2890

November 23-24

AAUW Christmas Market - MCC Centra, 406-234-8765

Missoula

November 1-3

"Happy" - 7:30 p.m., UM Masquer Theatre, PAR-TV Center, 406-243-6809

November 2

Festival of the Dead - Circle Square and Caras Park, 406-549-7933

November 2, December 7

First Friday - 5:30-9 p.m., downtown, 406-532-3240

November 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25, 30

December 1-2, 7-9, 14-16, 21-23, 28-30

Missoula Winter Market - Warehouse, 406-540-1881

November 2

NT: LIVE: "Timon of Athens" - 7:30 p.m., Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589

November 3

Carlos Mencia - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

November 3-4

"The Hobbit" - 3 and 5 p.m., MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-728-PLAY

November 3

Ultimate Indoor Craft Sale - 9 a.m.-4 p.m., University Center Ballroom, 406-523-5237

November 4, 11, 18, December 2

Second Wind Reading Series - 5 p.m., Top Hat, 406-728-9865

November 6

Dropkick Murphys - 7 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

November 7

EOTO - Top Hat, 406-728-9865

November 7-11, 13-18

"Fiddler on the Roof" - Montana Theater, UM PAR-TV Center, 406-243-4581

November 10

Metropolitan Opera Series: "The Tempest" - 10:55 a.m., Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589

November 10-11

Missoula Symphony: American Salute - Dennison Theatre, 406-721-3194

Synchronicity and The Sacred Space - 7 p.m., Downtown Dance Collective, 617-625-0907

November 12

Community Concert Band - 7:30 p.m., MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-728-PLAY

November 13

Datsik - 9 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

November 14

"The 19th Century French Realism of Jean-Francois Millet" - 7 p.m., UM Masquer Theatre, PAR-TV Center, 406-243-2019

November 15

Artini: Missoula by Night - 5-9 p.m., Missoula Art Museum, Missoula Art Museum, 406-728-0447
The Devil Makes Three - 8:30 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

Toots and The Maytals - 7:30 p.m., Dennison Theatre, University of Montana, 406-243-4051

November 16

Lecture: Yiyun Li, "RX for a Story Worth the Telling" - 12:30-1 p.m., UM STON 304, 406-243-5267
Reading: Yiyun Li - 7 p.m., Dell Brown Room, UM Turner Hall, 406-243-5267

November 17

"Doug's Ducks" - 1 p.m., Missoula Art Museum, Missoula Art Museum, 406-728-0447

November 19

Visiting Artist Lecture: Archie Bray Foundation Residents - 5:10-6 p.m., UM Social Science Building, Room 356, 406-243-2813

November 23-25

Under the Big Sky Holiday Festival - Hilton Garden Inn, 406-207-6502

November 24

"Montana - Cowboy Christmas" - 2 and 7:30 p.m., Dennison Theatre, 406-243-4051

November 25

"The Messiah" - 7:30 p.m., Dennison Theatre, 406-243-6885

November 29-December 1

Festival of Trees - Holiday Inn Downtown at the Park, 406-541-4663

November 29-December 2, December 5-9

"Miracle on 34th Street, The Musical" - MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-728-PLAY



Rocky Mountain Ballet's director Charlene Campbell showcases the versatility and creative talent of the troupe with two diverse shows in Hamilton and Missoula: "Going Viral" and "Montana - Cowboy Christmas."

December 1

Bharata Natyam (South Indian Classical Dance) - 6 p.m., Inner Harmony Yoga, 406-581-4093
Metropolitan Opera Series: "La Clemenza di Tito" - 10:55 a.m., Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589

December 1-2

Missoula Symphony: Holiday Pops! - Dennison Theatre, 406-721-3194

December 3, 10, 17

Music at the Red Bird - 7 p.m., Red Bird Wine Bar, 406-549-2906

December 3

"The School of Nature in French Art: Realism to Impressionism" - 8 p.m., UM Montana Theatre, PAR-TV Center, 406-243-2019

December 7

Missoula Community Chorus - 7:30 p.m., St. Anthony's Church, 406-668-1622
Tuba Christmas - 7:30 p.m., Southgate Mall Center Court, 406-728-2403

December 8

Metropolitan Opera Series: "Un Ballo in Maschera" - 10:55 a.m., Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589

December 9

Irish Christmas in America - 7:30 p.m., Dennison Theatre, 406-544-0311

Dolce Canto: Winter Preview and Appreciation Concert - 10 a.m., First Lutheran Church, 406-322-3547

Holiday Made Fair - 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Holiday Inn at the Park, 406-214-9078

String Orchestra of the Rockies: Holiday Youth on Parade - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-4051

Sufjan Stevens - 8:30 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

December 13

New York Polyphony - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-6892

December 15

Dolce Canto: Serenity and Stillness - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-322-3547

December 20

Zappa Plays Zappa - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

December 31

First Night Missoula - noon-midnight, downtown, The University of Montana and Southgate Mall, 406-541-0860

January 1

Old West Christmas Fest - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., downtown, 406-793-3474

January 2

Glacier Symphony and Chorale: Handel's Messiah - 7:30 p.m., Whitefish Performing Arts Center, 406-257-3241

January 15

Dolce Canto performs in Missoula and Superior in December. The Missoula Mendelssohn Club joins the a capella group for the Dec. 15 Missoula concert.

Polson

November 1

Spencer Bohren - 7:30 p.m., Polson High School Auditorium, Big Productions, 800-823-4386

November 4, December 2

Northwest Montana Accordion Association Jam - 2-5:30 p.m., Elks Club, 406-752-8275

November 10

Mission Valley Aquatics Soup Bowl Fundraiser and Auction - 5 p.m., Mission Valley Aquatics, 406-883-4567

November 11

Veteran's Day Celebration - noon-6 p.m., Miracle of America Museum, 406-883-6804

November 30-December 2, December 7-8

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" - John Dowdall Theatre, 406-883-9212

December 7-8

Holiday Art Walk - downtown, 406-883-5956

December 12

Storyhill - 7:30 p.m., Polson High School Auditorium, Big Productions, 800-823-4386

Red Lodge

November 30-December 1

Christmas Stroll - 6-9 p.m., downtown, 406-446-1718

Ronan

November 29

Special Consensus - 7:30 p.m., Ronan Performing Arts Center, Big Productions, 800-823-4386

Sidney

November 8

Okaidja and Shokoto - 7 p.m., Sidney Middle School, Northeastern Arts Network, 406-489-4304

December 9

MonDak Christmas Celebration - 1:30 p.m., MonDak Heritage Center, 406-433-3500

EXHIBITIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Anaconda

Copper Village Museum and Arts Center:

Chris Fulton, "Prairie Pastels," through Nov. 8; Montana National Guard Traveling Exhibit, Nov. 5-30, reception 6-8 p.m. Nov. 12; Eric Vantatenhove, Dec. 1-31; 406-563-2422

Arlee

Hangin' Art Gallery:

Killdeer Artisans Guild Holiday Art Show, through Jan. 25; 406-726-3335

Augusta

Latigo and Lace:

"Montana Pages and Palettes," through December; 406-562-3665

Big Timber

Two Rivers Gallery:

Mary Knapp and Peggy Ames Nerud, "Found Metal Finds Fused Glass," Nov. 16-Dec. 19, reception 5-8 p.m. Nov. 16; "Miniatures and More II," Dec. 21-Jan. 16, reception 5-8 p.m. Dec. 21; 406-932-4009

Billings

Moss Mansion:

"Meet the Moss Family," ongoing; 406-256-5100

MSU Billings Northcutt-Steele Gallery:

Benjie Heu, "Story Time," through Nov. 8; 406-657-2324

Sandstone Gallery:

Dick Moulden, month of November, reception 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2; Dave Torrence, month of December, reception 5-9 p.m. Dec. 7; 406-256-5837

Western Heritage Center:

"Echoes of Eastern Montana: Stories from an Open Country," through Dec. 31; "J.K. Ralston: History on Canvas," "Billings: The Railroads Shape Our Town" and "The American Indian Tribal Histories Project," ongoing; 406-256-6804

Yellowstone Art Museum:

"Docents Present ... Aha! Moments," through Jan. 6; "Herb and Dorothy: Fifty Works for Fifty States," through Dec. 30; "Treasured Views" and "Boundless Visions," ongoing; 406-256-6804

Yellowstone County Museum:

J. Brock Lee, through December; 406-256-6811

Bozeman

Bozeman Public Library:

Chris Boyer, through November; 406-582-2426

Bozeman Public Library Sculpture Park:

Montana Invitational Sculpture Exhibition, through August; 406-582-2400

Emerson Center:

"Seven From Missoula," through Nov. 16; "The Element Film Festival Art Show," through Nov. 20, reception 5-6:30 p.m. Nov. 2; Jane Deschner, Jon Lodge and Jerry Iverson Nov. 30-Jan. 31, reception 5-8 p.m. Dec. 14; 406-587-9797

MSU Helen E. Copeland Gallery:

Timothy Pugh, through Nov. 7, reception 6:30-8:30 p.m. Nov. 1; 406-994-2562

Museum of the Rockies:

"Raise the Roof: An Exhibit About Buildings," through Jan. 20; "The Artisan's Craft: The Fine Art of Woodworking," through Jan. 27; 406-994-2251

Butte

Main Stope Gallery:

Holiday Happenings and Christmas Show, Nov. 18-Dec. 31, reception noon-4 p.m. Nov. 18; 406-723-9195

Chester

Liberty Village Arts Center:

Leslie McNeil and Katie Twedt, month of November; Christmas Village, month of December; 406-759-5652

Colstrip

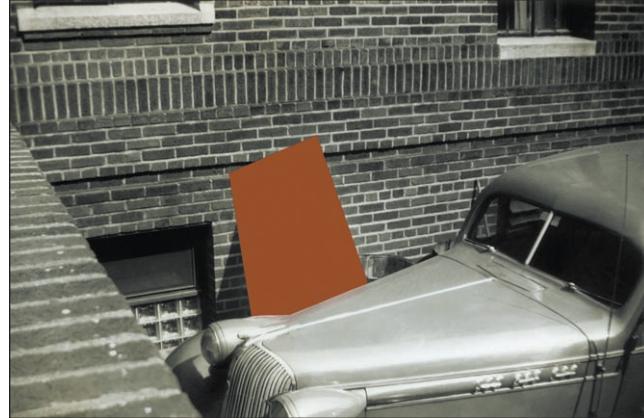
Schoolhouse History and Art Center:

"I Do: A Cultural History of Montana Weddings," through Nov. 16; "Santa's Mailbox," Nov. 26-Dec. 21; 406-748-4822

Dillon

UMW Art Gallery and Museum:

Permanent Collection, through Dec. 19; 406-683-7422



Jane Deschner's photo "Underneath" is on display at the Emerson Center in Bozeman.

Glendive

Dawson Community College Gallery 126:

Jordan Pehler, "Wax Works," through Dec. 19; Fall Juried Student Art Show, Nov. 19-Dec. 10; 406-377-3396

Great Falls

Amazing Gallery (inside Amazing Toys):

Deeling Gregory, ongoing; 406-727-5557

C.M. Russell Museum:

"Ghost Ranch and the Faraway Nearby: The Photographs of Craig Varjabedian," through Jan. 19; "National Geographic Greatest Photographs of the American West," through Jan. 26; 406-727-8787

Gallery 16:

Members' Christmas Show, through December, reception 5-9 p.m. Nov. 2; 406-453-6103

Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center:

"The Visions of Lewis and Clark" Kite Exhibition, through Jan. 4; 406-727-8733

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art:

"Painterly: Paintings from the Permanent Collection" through Nov. 3; Sandra McMorris Johnson, Jean L. Price, William H. Thielen and Myra Walker, "Ties That Bind," through Dec. 31; Patrick Zentz, Exhibition, month of November; David J. Spear Photography

Exhibition, month of December;

"Lee Steen: A Montana Original," and

"Jean Price: Three Thousand and Counting," ongoing; 406-727-8255

Parking Garage at 315

First Ave.: Urban Art Project, through December; 406-452-9315

The History Museum:

Political Campaign Buttons, through December; 406-452-3462

Hamilton

Art Focus:

Craig Birch, month of November, reception 6-8 p.m. Nov. 2; 406-363-4112

Ravalli County Museum:

"The Victorian Years," Nov. 2-Jan. 25, reception 6 p.m. Nov. 2; "Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic and Medicine," Dec. 20-May 16, reception 6 p.m. Dec. 20; "Animal Eyes" and "Radial Symmetry," through June 15; 406-363-3338

Havre

Artitudes Gallery:

Kathleen Richardson, "Land Escape," month of November, reception 6-8 p.m. Nov. 9; Steve Leitner, "Faces III," November and December, reception 6-8 p.m. Dec. 14; 406-265-2104

High Line Heritage House Museum:

"Hill County Centennial," through December; 406-399-5225

Helena

Archie Bray Foundation:

"Recent Acquisitions to the Archie Bray Permanent Collection," through Nov. 3; Holiday Exhibition and Sale, Nov. 14-Dec. 22, reception 6-8 p.m. Nov. 15; 406-443-3502

Holter Museum of Art:

Jean Albus, "What Else Is There to Say About the Land?" and "Treasures from the Vault," Nov. 8-Dec. 31, reception 5:30-8 p.m. Nov. 8; James Todd, "Jazz Icons," through Dec. 31; 406-442-6400

Montana Historical Society:

"An Artist's Journey: The Life and Works of E.S. Paxson," through spring; "The Art of Story Telling: Plains Indian Perspectives," through Nov. 24; "Winchester Lever-Action Rifles: Iconic Firearms of the American West," through Feb. 2; 406-444-4710

Myrna Loy Center:

Michael H. Lee, "Helena Area Vietnam Veterans: A Human Landscape," through November, reception 6:30 p.m. Nov. 9; 406-443-0287

Secretary of State's Office:

Treasured Montana Artist: Sheryl Hester, through December; 406-444-2807

Upper Missouri Artists Gallery:

New Members, month of November, reception 5-8 p.m. Nov. 16; Alumni Show, month of December; 406-457-8240

Kalispell

Hockaday Museum of Art:

Rob Akey, "Observation, Memory and Invention: Western Art Reconsidered," through Nov. 3; "Members' Salon," Nov. 8-Dec. 29, reception 5-7 p.m. Nov. 15; and "Russell Chatham: Montana Landscapes Through the Seasons," Nov. 23-Dec. 29; 406-755-5268

Kalispell Regional Healthcare:

"Family Ties," through April 14; Joe Hensley, through March 25; 406-257-4217

Lewistown

Lewistown Art Center:

Brenda Wolf and Ann Patterson Bishop, through Nov. 10; "Hanging of the Greens" Holiday Market Open House, Nov. 23-Dec. 24, reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. Nov. 23; 406-535-8278



"Rodeo, Nebraska, 1998" is part of "National Geographic Greatest Photographs of the American West" at the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls.

Livingston

Danforth Gallery:

"The Mind's Eye: Artists Destigmatizing Mental Illness," month of November, reception 5-7 p.m. Nov. 8; "Diminutive: Tiny Art with Huge Spirit," month of December, reception 4-8:30 p.m. Dec. 7; 406-222-6510

Livingston Center for Art and Culture:

"Abundant Harvest into the Stark Darkness," through Nov. 10; Holiday Art Exhibit, Nov. 12-Dec. 31, reception Nov. 30; 406-222-5222



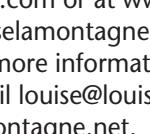
Sale of paintings helps provide dental care in Honduras

St. Ignatius artist Louise Lamontagne, a veteran 34-year dental hygienist, has been involved for many years with Cape CARES (Central American Relief Efforts (www.capecares.org)), an organization that provides much-needed medical and dental services to people in remote villages of Honduras who have no access to health care.

In November, she is traveling to Los Encinitos with her husband, two dentists (her father-in-law and brother) and her daughter (a dental assistant). She has also invited another dental hygienist, "who we desperately need but she cannot join the team without some financial assistance."

Cape CARES volunteers travel to Honduras at their own expense with an average cost of \$1,500 per person, which includes airfare, housing, meals and in-country transportation. To help defray expenses of the upcoming trip, Lamontagne is selling her original artwork at a significantly reduced price, with all proceeds going toward the Cape CARES journey.

The paintings may be viewed at louiselamontagnesart.blogspot.com or at www.louiselamontagne.net; for more information, email louiselamontagne.net.



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Art adorns the walls at Plains hospital

The Clark Fork Valley Hospital in Plains continues to show art on its walls, in a collaboration with the Sanders County Arts Council.

The fall "Art on the Walls" continues through Dec. 21. This juried show features 77 pieces of original art by 18 Sanders County artists. The opening reception on Sept. 27 featured music performed on handcrafted dulcimers and a mandolin, made by local artist/craftsman John Meckler.

A representative from the hospital speaks during receptions for these rotating exhibits, often citing the value of art to the medical community. Among their observations:

- The physical therapist purposely uses the art as part of the therapy program as she is making her way down the hall with a patient.
- It helps expectant moms and dads pass the hours as they await the birth of their child.
- Since the exhibit is across the hall from the surgical waiting room and in the hallway leading to the lab and x-ray department, many community members see it often.

EXHIBITIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Miles City

Custer County Art and Heritage Center: "Neil Jussila: Joseph in Montana – The Nez Perce Epic" and "Coming Home: The Northern Cheyenne Odyssey," through Nov. 11; Ninth Festival of Quilted Wonders and the Holiday Exhibit and Sale, Nov. 18-Dec. 31, reception 1-4 p.m. Nov. 18; and "Home of L.A. Huffman Photographs," ongoing; 406-234-0635

Missoula

Artists' Shop: Jerry and Martha Swanson, month of November, reception 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2; Rich Landy, month of December, reception 5-8 p.m. Dec. 7; 406-543-6393
Clay Studio: Holiday Sale, Dec. 7-21, reception 5:30-9 p.m. Dec. 7; Holiday Open House, 3-8 p.m. Dec. 15; 406-543-0509

Historical Museum at Fort Missoula:

"United We Will Win: World War II Posters That Mobilized a Nation," ongoing; "Taken: FBI," through Jan. 15; "Dining in Style," month of November; and "Baby It's Cold – Let's Go Outside!" month of December; 406-728-3476

Missoula Art Museum: Ric Gendron, "Rattlebone," Nov. 2-March 31, reception 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2; "Selected Works from the Susan and Roy O'Connor Collection," through Feb. 10; Gerri Sayler, "Evanescence" and "What Is a Broadside?" through Jan. 31; "Learning to See/Seeing to Learn" and "Lois Conner: Montana Prairie," through Jan. 13; "A Night Out with M. Scott Miller," through Dec. 23; "Shalene Valenzuela: Following Patterns," through Dec. 23, reception 5-8 p.m. Dec. 7; and "Terry Karson: Commons," through Dec. 31; 406-728-0447

Monte Dolack

Gallery - "Chief Cliff," November and December, receptions 5-8 p.m. Nov. 2 and Dec. 7; 406-549-3248

Montana

Museum of Art and Culture: "Labor and Leisure: Impressionist and Realist Masterpieces from a Private Collection," through Jan. 5, receptions 4-6 p.m. Nov. 1 and Dec. 6; "Impressionism: Masterpieces on Paper," through Jan. 5; 406-243-2019

The Downtown Dance Collective: Odette A. Grassi, "The Textile Imagery," through November; 406-541-7240

UM Gallery of Visual Arts: Juried Student Art Exhibition, Nov. 14-Dec. 7, reception 5-7 p.m. Nov. 15; 406-243-2813

University Center Gallery: "An Aesthetic Taxonomy," Oct. 29-Nov. 30, reception 4-6 p.m. Nov. 1; Juried Exhibition, Dec. 3-13, reception 4-6 p.m. Dec. 6; 406-243-5564



Shalene Valenzuela's "Dress-form" is part of "Following Patterns" on exhibit through Dec. 23 at the Missoula Art Museum.

Pablo

People's Center: "A Walk Through Time," through December; 406-675-0160

Plains

Clark Fork Valley Hospital: "Art on the Walls," through Dec. 21; 406-544-6654

Polson

Sandpiper Gallery: "Horsin' Around," through Nov. 9; Holiday Show and Sale, Nov. 13-Dec. 24; 406-883-5956

Red Lodge

Depot Gallery: "Impressions of Africa" by Jessie Wilber and Frances Senska, through November; Elliott Eaton, through December, reception 3-5 p.m. Nov. 3; Rock Creek Miniature Invitational, month of December, reception 4-6 p.m. Dec. 1; 406-446-1370

Red Lodge Clay Center: Mary Barringer and "Plated," month of November, reception 5-7 p.m. Nov. 2; Nick Joerling and "Chocolate Pots," month of December, reception 5-7 p.m. Dec. 7; 406-446-3993

Ronan

Red Poppy: Jay Cross, through Nov. 21; Christmas Boutique, Nov. 25-Dec. 31, reception 2 p.m. Nov. 25; 406-676-3010

Sidney

MonDak Heritage Center: Miniature Art Show, Oct. 31-Dec. 29; 406-433-3500

Whitefish

Stumptown Art Studio: "Dreaming of a White Fish-Mas," Nov. 24-Dec. 31; "Dia de los Muertos," through Nov. 2; 406-862-5929

W.O.W.: Crew of 60 volunteers creates community mosaic

Stumptown Art Studio unveiled the first mosaic in its "Windows on Whitefish" (WOW) series Sept. 21 on the exterior wall at 2nd Street and Central Ave. (Latitude 48 building) in Whitefish.

The first panel in this series, which depicts the Whitefish Range during each of the four seasons, focuses on Spring, and took eight months to complete by an army of 60 community volunteers under the direction of Deb Stika.

Beginning last January, volunteers took

mosaic-making classes at Stumptown, each creating their own miniature Window on Whitefish before working on the full-size, 6-by-9-foot window.

Aida Hebard, art director at the community art center, predicts the next window, "Summer," will take about six months to complete, since the process "has been greatly streamlined."

"Fall" follows, as the mosaic is first designed and then created through mosaic classes and community workshops. "The sequence of the seasons follows the increase of elevation up into the mountains, ending with winter," says Hebard.

Windows on Whitefish has involved a wide swath of the community, from youth to elderly people, and includes many special needs organizations, local businesses, and community leaders. Sponsorships help pay for the purchase of materials and costs of installation.

"The participation of the community made this possible," says Hebard. "Now that the first mural is on the outside of the building, everyone in town is talking about it, and is amazed at the beautiful addition to Whitefish."

"The WOW Community Mosaic Project is providing so many of us with such a sense of togetherness, thankfully," writes participant Jan Shanahan. "I love being a part of something that will live in our community as public art. And most of all, I loved learning the techniques from very talented artists ... With the support from the studio and the teachers, we will have such a beautiful display for the tourists who



Volunteers unveil the first of four mosaic panels in the Windows on Whitefish project.



Close-up shows the train panel in "Spring," the first mosaic in the Windows on Whitefish project.

frequent our little town most of the year."

Another mural-maker, Jane Burleson, reports, "The opportunity to work on a project that will beautify the downtown of Whitefish and artistically communicate how awesome it is here, has been a privilege. Not only that, I have made some great friends and gained a greater sense of connection and community ... and valuable experience in another art process, which is so important to me as an artist."

For more on the project, visit [www.stumptownartstudio.org](http://stumptownartstudio.org).

ABOUT VISUAL ARTISTS

James Todd: "Jazz Icons"

Through Dec. 31 at the Holter Museum of Art in Helena

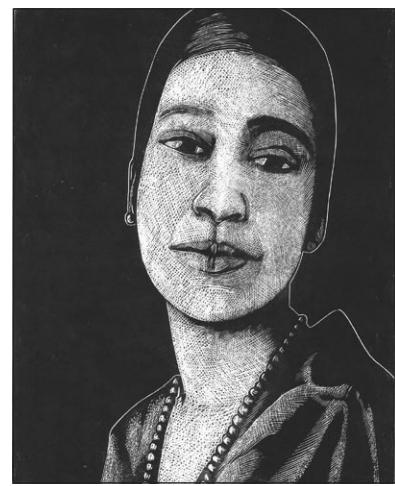
Painter and printmaker James Todd is a true Montana original. While many of his peers paint iconic Montana landscapes, Todd participates in a different tradition, one that is resolutely urban and politically engaged.

During his distinguished career he has made the conjunction of social history and the visual arts a primary focus for both his art-making and his teaching. Internationally recognized as a genuine innovator in wood engraving, he has broken stereotypes of size and content associated with the medium.

Todd grew up in Great Falls in the 1950s, where he and his brother, Mike, tuned their fine ears to jazz at local nightspots, including the Ozark Club. He taught humanities and art for 30 years at The University of Montana, Missoula, including a decade as the chair of the art department. He presently lives in Missoula.

"Jazz Icons" celebrates the men and women of jazz who hybridized purely American music. The exhibition stretches from his early high school sketches from Great Falls to the recently completed woodcut prints of "Jazz Women." Also included are paintings of jazz greats on loan from the Montana Museum of Art and Culture and a temporary loan of "The Ozark Club" from The History Museum in Great Falls.

This exhibition is accompanied by a catalog, *Jazz Icons* by James Gilbert Todd Jr., available for purchase in the Holter Museum Store.



"Bessie Smith" by James Todd

"A Night Out with M. Scott Miller"

Through Dec. 23 at the Missoula Art Museum, with a reception and gallery talk during "Missoula by Night," 5-9 p.m. Nov. 15
Artist website: www.studiomissoula.com

Missoula artist M. Scott Miller says his new series of paintings,

"A Night Out," was inspired by midnight hikes around his hometown.

The artist grew up in the Missoula – a child of the seventies and a graduate of Sentinel High."

He graduated from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, and spent two decades as a freelance artist and illustrator in New York City, where he was a cover artist for *The New Yorker*, *Money* and *Metropolitan* magazines. Clients also included the *Village Voice* and the *New York Observer* newspapers and Random House Publishing.

When he moved back to Missoula in 2006, "I was amazed again at the color and light and how beautiful my hometown really is, especially at night."

He opened Studio D in 2009 in downtown Missoula, which showcases his original paintings. "Light and color are the two reasons for my love of painting. They make me feel a certain way," he says.

Miller also continues his commercial work, creating artwork for the 25th anniversary of the Clark Fork Coalition, illustrating posters and commemorative clothing for Bannack Days, and crafting images for local and statewide newspapers and publications.

According to curator Stephen Glueckert, the series on display at MAM reflects two concepts: "First, is the artist's consistent selection of cityscapes and night scenes familiar to most Missoulians," he writes. "What is so fresh in these works is that Miller has painted Missoula in a way that it has not been painted before."

Glueckert also praises "the expertise with which he handles the medium," in particular the airbrush technique used in these gouache paintings.

For the artist, the exhibit pays homage to a town and state he loves – "the wild, colorful, expressive life in Montana."

Michael H. Lee: "Coming Home: Helena Area Vietnam Veterans"

Through November at the Myrna Loy Center in Helena, with a reception Nov. 9 during the Fall Art Walk

Michael Lee profiles 16 Vietnam War veterans in this photography exhibit, funded in part by a 2012 Grant to Artists from the Myrna Loy Center. Ken Inabnit, a Vietnam veteran and former aide to the Secretary of the Army for Montana, will speak during the reception Nov. 9.

The project was inspired, in part, by the reception Vietnam veterans received after returning from a controversial war. "It was quite a shock to fly into the military base to be discharged and be told that it'd be wise to get out of uniform as fast as you could, for the sake of safety," wrote Bob Chady of the U.S.S. Arikara crew, after his third tour.

"Some returning Vietnam veterans withdrew upon coming home and slipped into obscurity," says Lee. "The goal of many veterans was



"Coming Home: Helena Area Vietnam Veterans" by Michael Lee to create distance, both mental and physical, from the stigma of the war. How that distance was achieved differed for every veteran."

This project evolved by connecting to and networking with Helena-area Vietnam veterans, and trying to photograph them in work or home environments. The 16 veterans included in the show served 40-50 years ago, and range in age from 60-70. They represent but a handful of the several hundred Vietnam veterans estimated to live in Lewis and Clark County. "This exhibit is a remembrance and, I hope, a salve for some," writes Miller.

The artist is also a veteran of that war, having served in the Navy and been sent to Vietnam in 1969. His stay there inspired his interest in photography (he bought his first serious camera in Japan on the way home). When he returned to Montana, he was a staff photographer for *The Retort*, Eastern Montana College's student paper, prior to earning his bachelor's degree there. He and his wife, Debbie, joined the Peace Corps and traveled to Liberia, where he continued to hone his skills.

Lee has shown his work at several venues in Helena, and at The University of Montana and the National Gallery in Monrovia, Liberia.

"Treasured" Montana Artist Sheryl Hester

Through December in the Secretary of State's office in the State Capitol, Helena

Artist website: www.sherylhester.com

Sheryl Hester, a self-taught photographer and digital artist from Kalispell, is the most recent "Treasured" Montana Artist, selected by Secretary of State Linda McCulloch.

"Sheryl's artistic technique is unlike anything I have seen before," says McCulloch.

"Her interpretation of everyday images garners intrigue and makes you contemplate the benefits of exploring your own imagination."

The artist's initial camera-based images are significantly altered, distorted, restructured and reformatted to present a primordial landscape of abstract natural forms, which still retain the original colors and shapes of the photograph. A photograph of a bird may be digitally hand-painted to portray a horse, or a plant may be altered to resemble a person. The effect is an abstract and often whimsical design inherently connected to the people, places and things in Montana.

"Our beautiful state has always inspired me to be creative," Hester said. "I've explored many forms of art in my lifetime, and this new approach offers me creative freedom that is the most rewarding."

The fifth-generation Montanan has been a life-long resident of Kalispell. Since retiring she has built her own house, and focused more intensely on her artwork.

Her images were included in the recent Montana Triennial, on display this summer at the Missoula Art Museum.

Mary Knapp: "Found Metal Finds Fused Glass"

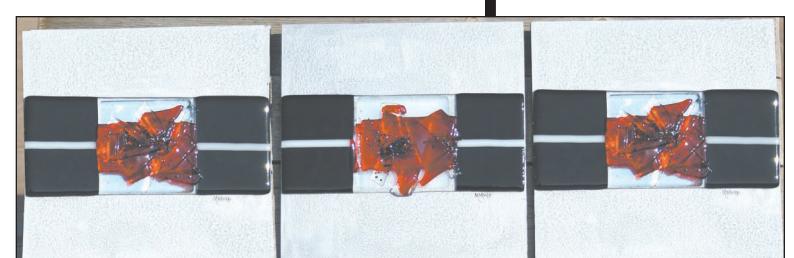
Nov. 16-Dec. 19 at Two Rivers Gallery in Big Timber

Artist website: meknappstudio.com

Ballantine artist Mary Knapp shares contemporary fused-glass works in this two-person show, which also features works by Malta sculptor Peggy Ames Nerud. Knapp, who spent 28 years teaching art at the Huntley Project Elementary School, retired in May 2010 to make art in her home studio. "For the past three years, I have concentrated on problem solving, creative thinking and most of all, risk taking daily to create original aesthetic visions using glass," she says.

The artist began learning the process of fusing and slumping glass more than a decade ago, and her works now combine the ancient medium of glass with the modern feel of metal. Elements of collage allow her to add color, texture and contrast to three-dimensional works that include large wall hangings, free-standing pieces and glass-top metal end tables.

Her art is displayed in galleries throughout Montana and in Key West, FL, and was featured in a show at the Amsterdam Whitney Art Gallery in New York City in December 2009 and at the Red Dot Art Fair in March 2010 in Soho, NY.



Wallhanging by Mary Knapp

About Artists is compiled by Kristi Niemeyer for *State of the Arts*

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TOUR OF EXCELLENCE

MAP artists and coaches return to Wyoming

By Cindy Kittredge
MAC Folk Arts and Market
Development Specialist

The Montana Arts Council's Tour of Excellence departed from Helena Sept. 7 with a busload of 40 MAP (Montana Artrepreneur Program) artists and coaches and headed for a weekend of learning at the Western Design Conference in Jackson, WY.

The Western Design Conference holds a reputation as a preeminent exhibition and sale of museum-quality art in the spirit of western design. Each year artists from across the nation vie for inclusion in the show, which awards more than \$22,000 in cash prizes to winners in 20 categories. The conference brings together artists, scholars, collectors, interior designers, architects, fashion designers and the general public.

Artists on the tour also had the time to interact with the more than 30 galleries in Jackson, in addition to gallery stops in Ennis and West Yellowstone. The purpose of the gallery visits was to analyze and learn how to approach galleries in the most appropriate way for the artist.

A number of artists made preliminary contacts with galleries, while others used the experience to learn more about placing their art and how that knowledge fits

in the scope of their own strategic plans for the future.

In addition to the Tour of Excellence, the work of 30 MAP artists was selected to show in the Montana Artists' Booth at the Western Design Conference. Although artists weren't required to be present in the booth, collectors, galleries, and the buying public viewed their work over the weekend of the show, which ran from Sept. 7-9.

Two MCAM artists, Al Chandler Goodstrike of Hays and Diane Scalese of Big Sandy, each had one piece of their artwork entered in the juried pedestal competition. Goodstrike's traditionally



Buyers explore the Montana Artists' Booth at the Western Design Conference.



Homeward bound: Tour of Excellence participants gather for trip back to Montana.

painted rawhide trunk received the Sonny Tuttle Heritage Spirit Award.

In addition, two MAP artists from the Bitterroot Village, Georgine Forgatch and Olive Parker (both of Stevensville), entered pedestals in the competition, with Parker winning the People's Choice Award for her leather and sapphire jewelry.

The Tour of Excellence and the Artist Launch are part of a three-pronged approach that MAC is taking to help Montana's visual artists build a sustainable life in the arts. This initiative includes the MAP system of teaching regional groups of emerging visual artists about entrepreneurship so that they can become market-ready certified, teaching qualified artists to become certified MAP coaches in order to deliver learning opportunities to more Montanans, and developing wider markets for artists both within and outside the state's borders.

Participants in both the tour and the launch were chosen on the basis of their participation in the Montana Arts Council's MAP program. Both opportunities were funded through grants from LINC (Leveraging Investments in Creativity) and the USDA.

For more about the MAP program, go to www.art.mt.gov or contact MAC Folk Arts and Market Development Specialist Cindy Kittredge at mtcreativearts@gmail.com.



Richard Peters and Michael Blessing assembling display furniture (above), and a section of the Montana Artists' Booth (below).



Cathy Toot, Olive Parker and Wendy Marquis admire Parker's winning pedestal (above).

Guidebook helps artists find business insurance

CERF+ (Craft Emergency Relief Fund + Artists' Emergency Resources) puts the essential information about business insurance at your fingertips (and in your shirt pocket), with its new *Business Insurance Guidebook for Artists*.

A Studio Protector publication by CERF+, this pocket-sized booklet contains the essential information artists need to assess their business insurance needs and to purchase a business insurance policy for their studios, all in easy-to-follow checklists and tips.

It is available for \$3 including postage from the CERF+ store (store.craftemergency.org), or may be downloaded for free as a printable pdf. The booklets are also available in bulk at a reduced price, for workshops or distribution to groups.

More insurance resources are in the Safeguarding section of the Studio Protector Online Guide at studioprotector.org – just click on "Getting Insurance" at the top of the home page.

Artisan opportunities abound at Made in Montana Marketplace

Online registration for the 111 exhibitor booths in the 2013 Made in Montana Marketplace, as well as registration for wholesale buyers, is now open. Registration for both exhibitors and buyers closes on Feb. 15.

The City of Great Falls and the Montana Department of Commerce will present the annual two-day trade show March 22-23 at the Mansfield Convention Center for producers registered with the Made in Montana program. The purpose of the show is to connect wholesale buyers from across the region with producers of products made in Montana.

Exhibitors pitch their products exclusively to wholesale buyers the first day. On the second day, the marketplace is open to the public.

Exhibitors throughout the trade show showcase hundreds of creations, from handcrafted furniture to gourmet snacks. Wholesale buyers in attendance represent department stores, grocery stores, gift shops, museums, and state and national park stores across the region.

The marketplace is strategically timed to connect exhibitors with wholesale buyers looking to purchase for the spring and summer seasons.

"Montana artisans, microbrewers and vintners also showcase their products," said marketplace coordinator Paul Lloyd-Davies.

As an added incentive, exhibitors who submit a complete application for the marketplace by Dec. 7, save \$50 on the price of a booth. Registration may be completed online at www.madeinmontanamarkeplace.com.

The Montana Department of Commerce and the Montana Department of Agriculture started the original Made in Montana Food and Gift Show in 1998. In 2004, funding for the show was cut.

The administration of Gov. Brian Schweitzer restored funding to help sponsor the rebirth of the show in 2005. In 2006, the City of Great Falls assumed production of the show and renamed it the Made in Montana Marketplace.

The Department of Commerce remains a primary partner and sponsor of the marketplace. The Department of Agriculture and Montana Arts Council are contributing partners.

For more information on exhibitor and wholesale buyer registration, or to become a sponsor, call 406-455-8510. Follow marketplace activities on Facebook at www.facebook.com/madeinmontanamarkeplace or visit www.madeinmontanamarkeplace.com.

Big anniversary (from page 1)

Quist and his newly formed band made their debut performance as the first concert in the Folkshop's first series. "It was the talk of the town for two weeks," says Cantlon.

The next two shows lost enough money that by the end of the inaugural season, "we were \$35 ahead. I thought it was a great accomplishment not to be in the hole."

Organizers decided to recruit sponsors – a plan that helped ensure the series' long life. "The reason we've lasted 25 years is because we've had sponsors and believe we need to give them more than a passing name in the program," says Cantlon. "We need to make it clear to the community what they are doing for us, and for the audience."

Big Productions (as it's been known for several years) does that in a number of ways: banners for each sponsor are draped across the front of the stage; and individual concert sponsors are mentioned at the end of radio ads, on all posters and programs, and are thanked by Cantlon when he introduces the performers.

Backers also receive tickets to the show.

The ultimate goal is to line up enough sponsors, as well as pursuing grants from WESTAF and the Montana Performing Arts Consortium, to pay for the series "before we sell the first ticket." That way, ticket revenues go to the Youth Home.

The series includes seven concerts from October through April, with an occasional "off-series" event. Cantlon says he – along with an advisory group that helps select performers – strives to balance genres and give audiences a mix of sure-fire draws and more challenging fare.

Typically, shows attract a crowd of 125-175, and can draw as many as 350. "We have a rabid audience for classical music – 75 people show up, but that's about it," says Margie. "The same is true of jazz. We can't afford to take a night like that very often ...

"The reason we've lasted 25 years is because we've had sponsors and believe we need to give them more than a passing name in the program."

– Chas Cantlon

for free (11 and under need to be accompanied by a ticketed adult), Big Productions is allowed to use school auditoriums in Polson and Ronan at no charge. "It's a win-win situation, and we're hoping they bring parents, and become our audience."

Over the years, Margie says, kids have also learned how to become respectful audiences. By attending school assemblies, middle school students ("orangutans," Chas calls them) "learn how to listen, how to appreciate and how to appropriately respond."

She's also noticed that kids become more willing "to try new things, to open up their minds."

The same might be true of Mission Valley audiences, who have developed a reputation for being appreciative and responsive. "They know how to give performers energy," says Cantlon. "Artists are always telling us that's

an amazing experience ... and we like the artists to have just as much fun as the audience."

The couple says that emailing concert reminders has done more to increase their audience than any other marketing technique. They've developed a large email list, and send recipients a series announcement, followed by an email 10 days before a concert, and another reminder the day before a show. "We've learned that people our age occasionally forget things," says Cantlon.

In the first two years of developing this strategy, ticket sales doubled. "We try to give them the feeling they're getting the inside scoop – it's more like a conversation, with additional information about the artist," says Chas.

Two couples with large, comfortable homes overlooking Flathead Lake, provide lodging for artists. "Both of them know how to give the artists space and make them feel welcome," says Cantlon.

Occasionally, Big Productions has used that as leverage for a performer who costs more than they can afford. "One artist was asking \$5,000-\$6,000. We had a spot left on our schedule, but could only pay \$1,500," recalls Chas. "We said, 'we'll take care of you like kings and queens,' and by the end of the summer, they said 'yes.'"

After more than 38 years with Lake County Youth Home, Cantlon is retiring this year, although he and Margie have offered to continue wrangling the concert series, "in return for gas money" to and from their retirement home in Idaho.

Cantlon still enjoys introducing Mission Valley audiences to new musicians – and occasionally old friends. "They don't always know they're coming to the Garden of Eden until they get here," he says. But that's fine with him: "I like the element of surprise."

Tips for performing artists: Connect with your audience

By Kristi Niemeyer

Chas Cantlon, who has been promoting concerts in the Mission Valley for 25 years, says the first time he attended a Montana Performing Arts Consortium (MPAC) booking conference, "I thought it was a rip-off."

He quickly discovered, however, that MPAC "is a huge, huge resource that allows me to see how artists interact with the audience."

He notes, too, "artists are crappy at getting an audience in front of them, and audiences don't know how to get artists in front of them." MPAC brings the two together.

The annual event, held in a different Montana town each year, gives artists a chance to strut their stuff during the 12-minute showcase presentations and offers series' presenters an opportunity to mingle with artists, sample their wares and "block book" with other promoters for savings.

The next conference is Jan. 25-27 in Great Falls, with the showcase on Saturday, Jan. 26.

Cantlon offers these suggestions to artists who are hoping to make the most out of their 12 minutes of fame:

- First and foremost: "Be sure and look at, and relate to, the audience. Don't try to impress us with how great you are; just try to relate to people as genuine."

- "Don't complain about the 12 minutes, and don't try to show everything. Offer a microcosm."

- "Start with something upbeat."

- "Learn to act like you're relaxed, whether you're relaxed or not."

What catches his eye on stage, and makes him want to book the artist?

"The number-one thing is relating to the

audience," he says. The performers he sees at MPAC "are all more or less great artists or musicians." But if they can't relate to an audience, Cantlon won't try to sign them for his series.

Of course, price and musicianship matter too: "We want the highest quality we can afford."

"They must be excellent musicians or performers within their medium," he adds. And polished enough "that I don't have to worry about it if they screw up."

He offers two examples of acts that he booked after a showcase:

The Goddard Sisters are a family band from the West Coast that performed in Ronan last year. "They let their personalities and character come through. The audience felt like they were sitting on the front porch with them."

And this season's opening act, James Lee Stanley and John Batdorf, is a duo that offers acoustic versions of rock classics. "These guys are the epitome of how to do a showcase. Their musicianship was impeccable, their songs talked to us, and we didn't know we'd get quality stand-up too."

For more on the MPAC conference, visit www.mtpc.org.

"Be sure and look at, and relate to, the audience. Don't try to impress us with how great you are; just try to relate to people as genuine."

– Chas Cantlon

Approximately 20 presenting organizations in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho are expected to attend the MPAC conference, which several artists have described as the "most humane and fun

booking conference in the country."

Applications must be postmarked Oct. 31 and may be downloaded from the website, www.mtpc.org. Electronic application is not yet available.

The number of showcase time slots is limited to 17, and artists must submit three identical sets of publicity material; one CD or DVD sample; and one black and white or color photograph or digital image on CD; a completed application form and registration fee. Artists will be notified of jury results by Nov. 21.

For more details, contact info@mtperformingarts.org or 406-585-9551.

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Best practices for volunteer orientation

Shawn Kendrick offered the following tips on training volunteers in a February 2012 issue of GuideStar, an information service for nonprofits:

Orientation is a volunteer management practice that sets the foundation for a successful relationship. Start with one-on-one time with your volunteer so you can have a reciprocating relationship and place them in the appropriate assignments.

- Show the volunteer that there are expectations and you need to be taken seriously.

- Have new volunteers experience your organization's services as a client would.

- Pair the volunteer with an experienced volunteer or staff member for the greatest benefit to your company. For more, visit www2.guidestar.org.



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NEW FOR NONPROFITS

The missing ingredient in major gifts effort

By Gail Perry

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the FiredUp Fundraising Blog,
www.gailperry.com

Do you ever feel like you are stuck in the office? The problem is – you’re not going to raise any money there.

You’ve got to get out in front of donors.

Many of my colleagues complain that they just aren’t out making the calls on donors they need to make.

They know it’s the missing ingredient in implementing their fundraising plan.

The no. 1 secret of raising lots of money? Face time with donors

The problem (or opportunity) is that there’s no substitute for face-to-face customer/donor contact.

How else can you forge a deep relationship? How else can you use your radar to learn more about the donor’s interests and inclinations?

And if you consider the lifetime value of a major donor to your organization, it might be easier to justify getting out there and visiting with them.

Why is it so hard to be out of the office?

Immediate priorities keep pulling at you. And they take you pretty much nowhere.

Yes, you’re working on your direct-mail program, writing thank-you letters, solving problems, setting up your next event, even reading this blog – but none of this will raise the really big money you need.

As Ayda Sanver, the very smart executive director of the CSAAC Foundation in Maryland told me recently, “You can’t raise money in your office!”

She’s out there all the time visiting with potential and current donors. Yes!

The Data: It really DOES pay to schmooze

The Neuromarketing blog recently ran an article titled “It Really Does Pay to Schmooze.”

They cited an experiment that tested the difference between establishing a personal connection and not establishing it. They found that when students socialized before doing business, the odds were far greater that they would strike a successful “win-win” deal.

They concluded: “Good, old-fashioned face time can have a significant impact on trust and behavior.”

So what's your plan for getting out of the office? Here's your plan:

1. Set a goal for each month. Set the number of visits you plan to make each month. Is it 8, 12, 20? (If you are not a CEO, then you should make a minimum of 12, I think.)

You will never get anywhere without this goal.

2. Enlist internal support. Tell all your co-workers about your goal and ask them to push you out of the office. You’ve got to have internal support.

Sometimes non-fundraising staff will raise their eyebrows about our need to get out of the office. I used to sense subtle disapproval from some co-workers when I was a staffer.

So be sure everyone knows what your job is and why it’s important to be out there.

3. Make it a big deal. Talk about your

visits, and your goal. Get your CEO behind you. Get your board behind you.

Tell everybody that you need to make a certain number of visits each month. Ask for their help.

Who needs a face-to-face meeting? What wonderful donor needs to be thanked in person? Who has tons of potential and needs more cultivation? (If she’s smart, your boss will make this a management tool, and will ask to see monthly reports on your progress against goals.)

4. Just do it. Draw a line in the sand and make a personal commitment.

I send out my Friday newsletter come hell or high water (or hurricanes!) – I just do it.

No matter what’s going on in my life or business, this newsletter comes out. And it has made all the difference in the world – to my thinking, to my marketing, to my professional development.

So just think what you could accomplish if you had a lot of major prospects under cultivation. How much more money could you raise?

Bottom line: Here’s your motto: “If it’s to be, it’s up to me.”

You can do it! Just make the commitment.

This article is reprinted from the FiredUp Fundraising Blog by Gail Perry, MBA, CFRE. Perry is a consultant, coach and popular speaker who works with organizations nationwide to fire up their fundraising and their board. You can access many free fundraising resources on her site (www.gailperry.com) and stay up to date by joining her Firedup Fundraising Insiders. You can reach her at gp@gailperry.com.

Capital campaign magic

Have you noticed big capital campaigns in your community that raise millions? From the outside, it looks effortless. Like magic. They announce the goal and Presto! They’re celebrating success.

How does it all happen? How can you pull off big-time results like these for your smaller organization? Andrea Kihlstedt and Gail Perry share techniques in “Capital Campaign Magic: Revealing Five Secrets of Success.”

By following these five secrets of success, and you’ll find those larger gifts start coming your way. And even if you’re not in a campaign, you can use these five key strategies now, in your everyday fundraising this fall, to bring in the big gifts.

1. Focus on the right few.

2. Tie your campaign to community benefits.

3. Get everyone pulling in the same direction.

4. Train people to ask.

5. Set a dollar goal and put it up against a deadline.

Kihlstedt and Perry have joined forces in a new blog site, capitalcampaignmagic.com

– from GuideStar
(www.guidestar.org),
September 2012

Stop pitching, start listening

How to find out what donors care about

Reprinted with permission from
Nonprofit Board Report, June 2011

Let’s face it: Some ways of interacting with prospective donors work better than others.

Board members already understand that talking too much about themselves when cultivating prospects is a no-no. But it’s even tougher to wean members of talking about the organization’s needs.

After all, isn’t that what it’s all about – the nonprofit’s needs? Not exactly.

New mindset

These days, donors (individual, foundation and corporate) are more interested in an organization’s social impact, argues Jason Saul in his new book, *The End of Fundraising*.

What’s that mean to you?

It means that although an emotional pitch to a potential donor will never go out of style, these days your prospective donors are more likely to respond to an outcome-based solicitation aimed at their own specific needs, wants and desires.

Here are five ways to tweak your pitch so it resonates with today’s donors:

1. Get to know the prospective donor.

What are your donors’ finances, their pain, the social outcomes they value – and how important is it for them to achieve those outcomes?

2. Identify and believe in your organization’s value.

What’s its value proposition? Once the board has identified that, it’s easier to go seeking investments (rather than handouts) from donors.

3. “Sell painkillers, not vitamins.” When cultivating donors, board members should focus on strong and immediate impact – nothing too vague or with too far a time horizon.

4. Sell outcomes, not programs. When cultivating prospective donors, board members should talk about what their group achieves – and avoid the urge to list the specifics of various programs.

It’s true prospects still care, for instance, about how many meals a nonprofit serves to homeless people every day.

But they care more about outcomes. For instance, board members can talk about how many fewer children go to bed hungry every night, or how many families have moved out of homelessness as a result of the organization’s meal program.

5. Avoid focusing on the organization’s needs. The best way to talk about donors’ contributions to the organization is to consider how to solve a donor’s problem or assuage his or her pain. That’s more effective than focusing on what the organization “deserves.”

Don’t forget the mission

Addressing the social outcomes associated with your group’s programs doesn’t mean its mission falls by the way side.

On the contrary, the important thing is to connect your social outcomes to the value others place on them.

To read more about this approach to donor communications, consult *The End of Fundraising*, by Jason Saul, published by Jossey-Bass, josseybass.com. For more information on the Nonprofit Board Report, call 800-220-5000 or visit www.pbpinfo.com.

Artful woodpile



Gary Tallman, an artist from Monarch, takes an inventive approach to building a woodpile. Last year’s effort was featured in *Rural Montana* magazine (February 2012); the photo above shows this year’s pile. Tallman is the author of a self-published book of poetry, *Montana Paths*, covered in the About Books section of *State of the Arts*.

LAW AND THE ART WORLD

Reader concerns, giclee “originals” and hype

By Bill Frazier ©2012

A number of readers have called recently with a variety of questions, and several have commented on what seems to be the increasing hype associated with giclee prints, and specifically those printed on canvas known also as canvas transfers.

There seems to be an enterprising “artist” down south who has developed an interesting scheme. He prints giclee reproductions of his work on canvas, then makes a few adjustments to the image with his brush or palette knife, and then sells the resulting products as original paintings. He can produce as many as his printer can print.

This is an extreme example of what has come to be called “enhanced” prints that have been on the market for several years. Enhanced prints are those that have been printed, then partially touched with a swipe of the paintbrush or palette knife or otherwise modified by the artist or an assistant to be sold at an “enhanced” price. They are not represented as originals.

This new scheme takes things a step beyond. The artist is actually reproducing his same image over and over, signing each as though it were an original, and then passing off each as an entirely new original work. I also understand that this same person has followed this same process with other artists’ work without permission. This is not only a copyright infringement regarding the other artists, but probably also fraud. In any case, it is clearly a misrepresentation of what is being sold.

The point of this information is that buyers must continue to educate themselves about the activities of the art marketplace, question what a particular art product is, and exercise due diligence in their purchases, and deal with reputable galleries and artists.

New technologies can produce new art forms, but they can also produce new frauds. The sale of art from an artist, show or gallery to a buyer creates a contract. It is important for both sides of the contract to understand what is being sold and bought.

Despite the clarity and technical integrity of the giclee prints, they are still reproductions and not originals. No amount of hype can make them anything else. Giclees are very good reproductions, and the current state-of-the-art in print technology, but they are still just reproductions of original works of art.

I cannot help but be reminded of all of the hype associated with the marketing of limited edition prints back 20 or 30 years ago and the adverse effects it eventually had on the overall art market. It all ended up being a caricature of itself – everything was marketed as a limited edition, from tools to cars to clothing.

Pay attention to invitations

As I have in the past, I caution artists to pay attention to the materials enclosed with their invitations to participate in art shows and auctions. These are beginning to arrive in the mail and sometimes perfectly legitimate sale terms can be confusing.

If the invitation is to an auction, please remember the distinctions in “with reserve” and “without reserve.” In a without-reserve auction, a piece can be sold regardless of how low a bid may be. A with-reserve auction provides the protection of a reserve price below which an item cannot be sold. Keep in mind that a request for an estimated selling price or “value” to appear in the auction catalog is not a reserve price.

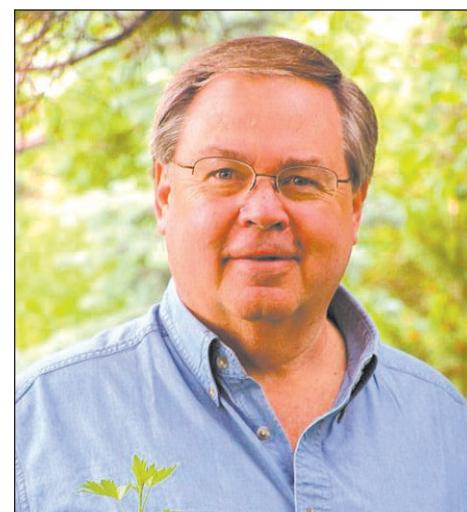
If your invitation is to enter a show, be sure to read all of the materials with the invitation, as all of these documents together will form your contract with the sponsoring gallery or other organization. By being informed, the possibility of later problems is reduced.

Indian Arts and Crafts Act

In an earlier article, I discussed the Indian Arts and Crafts Act and how it applies to Indian artists, jewelers, potters and other craftsmen, and the benefits and abuses. Most galleries and shops display, label and sell correctly, but a few do not.

Again, buy from reputable dealers and galleries and watch out for flea market and gift shop “Indian” jewelry. I recently saw what looked like turquoise, but was in fact, dyed agate. Remember, despite what you may be offered on late-night television sale shows and in some tourist shops, there is no natural purple turquoise.

Indian jewelry does not come from China, Turkey or Mexico. It may be silver, turquoise and beautifully crafted, but it cannot be called Indian. The same applies to the origin of pottery, leatherwork, and any other crafted products. These things cannot be called Indian unless they are fabricated by an enrolled



Bill Frazier

member of a federally recognized tribe or otherwise fall under the restrictions and protections of the act.

If it sounds too good to be true ...

Artists, continue to be aware of the variety of frauds and scams aimed at you and others in the art market. Just remember, as we have all heard over and over again, that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Do not get confused by so-called awards that you have to pay for or bear some financial burden to receive. Do not get involved in convoluted overseas sales and shipping transactions. Most are scams even when quite innocent-sounding.

If you simply cannot resist the enticement, call your lawyer or other advisor for a more objective analysis of the proposal, and whatever you do, do not give out social security numbers, pin numbers and bank-account numbers.

Do not open strange email attachments. They may contain computer viruses or be an attempt to hack or steal your personal information or various other attempts at identity theft.

Bill Frazier served a lengthy and invaluable tenure as chairman of the Montana Arts Council. He's in private practice in Big Timber, and can be reached at 406-932-5453 or artlaw@mtintouch.net. MAC thanks Art of the West for permission to reprint this series.

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Find “Law and the Art World” online

Bill Frazier’s “Law and the Art World” series is also available online with other articles from this and previous editions of *State of the Arts*.

Now there is a quick and easy way to search within “Law and the Art World” for Frazier’s legal perspective on specific topics. His articles have been regrouped into 11 categories under the title “Artists’ Legal Advice.” In these, Frazier discusses contracts, auctions, taxes, copyright issues and other subjects of recurring interest to artists.

Please bear in mind Frazier’s important advice when using the resource:

“... Don’t forget that the law is a dynamic and ever-changing thing.”

To reach the collection of articles, go to the arts council website at www.art.mt.gov and select the *State of the Arts* link on the right side of the home page. That takes you to the *State of the Arts* “News Articles” page and a drop-down box under the “View articles for specific section”; then choose “Artists’ Legal Advice” from the drop-down menu.

Tech Talk: Photographing artwork, Part 2

By Mark Ratledge

In the last issue of *State of the Arts*, I wrote about the process involved in taking quality photographs of artwork. You need high-quality photographs if applying for a grant or a gallery show of your work, or if you’re photographing artwork for a website or brochure.

Your photographs are the only way to show your artwork to others, so your images need to be the best you can afford.

A quick recap:

- Use a good quality camera (typical point-and-shoots will not give clean and flat images due to small lenses).

- Use a tripod to hold and steady the camera (you need to concentrate on framing the image and not on holding the camera).

- If working with 2-D art, line up your artwork with the camera to be sure the artwork is square with the camera sensor (or film plane, if you’re shooting film) in order to get an undistorted image.

- Use a manual exposure setting to be sure you shoot at F8 or smaller aperture. (This will mean slow shutter speeds when shooting inside, and that’s another requirement for a tripod.)

- And don’t use a flash.

One more important aspect of photographing artwork is the type of light used

in the area where you are photographing. This might surprise you, but all light is not created equal. Daylight and interior lighting are different color spectrums, even though they appear to be both mostly white to our eyes.

Different sources of light contain different amounts of the different colors of the spectrum that, when mixed together, make up the “white” light that we see outside in daylight and from light fixtures inside.

But a digital camera sensor (and photographic film) must be “told” what spectrum of light is being used. The most common light spectrum is, of course, daylight. But two other very common spectrums are the tungsten lighting of interior incandescent bulbs, and fluorescent lighting – either energy-saver bulbs or tubes. (There are many other spectrums generated by artificial lights, but tungsten and fluorescent are the most common you’ll come across.)

How do you adjust a digital camera for a certain light spectrum? A good digital camera will have what is called a “white



Mark Ratledge is an information technology consultant. His website is markratledge.com.

balance” setting; this allows you to tell the camera what kind of spectrum you’re using. Look through your camera menu or the owner’s manual to find white-balance settings.

Some cameras will auto-detect white balance, but you may have better results if you manually set it. You should be able to set your camera to daylight, tungsten or fluorescent.

Inexpensive cameras won’t allow white-balance settings, and if you tried photographing artwork in the past and got wonky colors, that’s why: the camera wasn’t able to auto-detect a white balance.

Try some test shots and see how they look on a computer monitor and printed out. And if you’re shooting film, you need to buy either tungsten or daylight film to match the light you are using.

So, to get good photos of your artwork: consider the light and use a tripod and a good camera.



Public Value Partnerships: "The three Rs" at work

Public Value Partnership grants between Montana nonprofit arts organizations and the Montana Arts Council champion the fact that the arts are of benefit to all the citizens of Montana and are worthy of state and federal investment.

Public Value Partnerships utilize three tools we call "The Three Rs" to expand the public value of the work being done by Montana's non-profit arts organizations:

- Building relationships;
- Creating greater relevance and meaning; and
- Establishing return on investment.

MAC believes that using "The Three Rs" strengthens participation, understanding and support from audiences, donors and funders. We'd like to share some of the best examples of these stories with you from 2011:

Building Relationships

The CoMotion Dance Project, Missoula:

MoDE (Montana's Model Dance Education Project) is the primary project of the CoMotion Dance Project, which sponsored long-term, integrated school residencies in seven schools across western Montana in 2011.

Relationships with these schools were continually strengthened through periodic visitations with the principal and teachers.

Face-to-face meetings happen a minimum of three times during the school year and email contact is maintained. Teaching artists are trained to maintain positive working relationships with school personnel, which happens daily. Of primary importance is the quality of work, effectiveness of the teaching, and students' academic achievement.

Performance outreach to schools: CoMotion embarked on a new performance piece in January 2012 that uses dance to teach about fire science, fire ecology and forest regeneration. Conversations with teachers have helped us understand how to use dance to enhance knowledge about fire curriculum.

While doing the research on fire ecology we forged new relationships with the U.S. Forest Service. Jane Kepler Smith, ecologist with the Missoula Fire Sciences Lab, collaborated on the project and introduced Blackfeet Indian educator Bruce Running Crane, who we interviewed. Singer/songwriter Jack Gladstone narrated sections on the native uses of

fire, and new composers and musicians composed sound scores for the piece. As a result, many new individuals are now familiar with our work.

Supporters sought:

This year, for the first time, CoMotion sent out a direct-mail donor request. Coordinating with the UM Foundation, the targeted mailing went to approximately 60 individuals selected by their giving history and their interest in our organization.

The request detailed the work we've been doing and included print materials and a copy of an article featured in *Dance Teacher* magazine. We were surprised and gratified by the response.

Creating Relevance

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls:

The Square has continued to remove real or perceived barriers to access by reinforcing open access to all throughout programming. This past year, we hosted our annual VSA Easter Seals exhibition where 64 artists displayed works and hosted their families and others at the opening.

We established new partnerships with Salvation Army, Boys & Girls Club and Eagle Mount, reaching out to those with physical, mental and income challenges to ensure they are able to participate in enriching arts activities. In total, 176 students participated in the VSA Montana Arts programming.

Additionally, through grants and private donors, we have continued to provide free after-school programming for children K-12.

This year we began a new area of emphasis on our permanent collection which included re-dedication of the Wylder Gallery to host changing exhibitions from the collection throughout the year. A highlight from this new initiative was the exhibition "Theodore Waddell: The Weight of Memory," on display November 2010-May 2011. This exhibition featured works from the permanent collection that have rarely been publicly shown, as well as publication of a catalog which contained a historical perspective of art of the American West and Mr. Wad-

dell's place in the genre. His masterwork, "Cloud Landscape #5," was exhibited for the first time and has been promised as a gift to the museum.

Return on Investment

North Valley Music School (NVMS), Whitefish:

A piano, violin and viola instructor teamed up with NVMS to gather an intergenerational group of people from throughout the Flathead Valley to

learn, share and enjoy the benefits of orchestral music.

At first, this group was small, with only a few members who played together in the comfort of the NVMS great room. However, as the word and music spread through informal community performances, others joined in. In April 2011, the NVMS's Whitefish Community Orchestra had over 25 student musicians ranging in age from middle school students to adult retirees.

Families played together – grandchildren alongside grandparents. Strangers met and became friends through music and community. Neighbors, co-workers, friends, families and strangers came to watch and listen to this non-professional group of student musicians.

Last spring, the Whitefish Community Orchestra held two free public concerts, one in Kalispell and the other in Whitefish. They invited a community choir to accompany them.

The concerts were attended by over 250 people. The atmosphere at both venues was full of excitement and emotion. The vision of creating a community orchestra with student musicians of all ages from the greater Flathead Valley, and sharing this musical experience with the community had been fulfilled.



Little seeds grow into a plant in this dance CoMotion Dance project.

positive working relationships with school personnel, which happens daily. Of primary importance is the quality of work, effectiveness of the teaching, and students' academic achievement.

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Accounting software helps arts organizations

The Montana Arts Council doesn't know what most people are using for accounting software – maybe we'll do a survey at some point to figure that out. But in the meantime, Sally Hensel, a CPA in Missoula and an expert in nonprofit accounting, reports that QuickBooks, beginning in 2012, has the capacity to track trial balances by funds or grants, and may also be used for payroll and inventory.

And compared to other options, it's very reasonably priced. Those organizations with 10 to 20 funding sources to track may need accounting software called SAGE. It costs \$15,000-\$20,000. Yikes!

– Carleen Layne,
accountant,
Montana Arts Council

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT GRANTS

The Montana Arts Council Strategic Investment Grants (SIG) provide up to \$1,000 in matching funds to professional artists, nonprofit 501(c)(3) arts organizations and pre-K-12 teachers in Montana for:

Training and Network Development: Grants for professional development and networking opportunities that help build art skills, healthy arts careers and businesses.

Market Expansion: Grants to help increase exposure and improve marketing or promotion, opportunities for exhibition or performance and sales.

Public Outreach Arts Activities: Grants for ongoing and one-time arts activities by arts organizations and artists that help

firmly anchor the arts in the greater community.

Challenges and Emergencies: Grants to provide assistance for artists or arts organizations experiencing catastrophic-level emergencies that threaten their ability to continue their work, and demand prompt and immediate attention.

Other Projects: Activities and ideas falling outside of these categories, yet worthy of state investment, might be eligible. Potential applicants must first discuss their proposal with the MAC grants director, Kristin Han Burgoyne (khan@mt.gov or 406-444-6449) to determine eligibility.

Following is a list of SIG grants awarded in August and September, 2012:

Organization/Individual	Project Title	Town	Awarded
Karen Chesna	Glacier Metalsmithing Studio	Kalispell	\$1,000
Black Pinto Horse Fine Arts	Author, Laura Munson's Writing Retreat	Great Falls	\$1,000
Tarn Ream	Cultural Workshop Music & Dance of Guinea, West Africa	Missoula	\$1,000
Kelly Dangerfield	Trip to Jackson Hole Fall Arts Festival	Bozeman	\$609
Friends of the Museum of the Plains Indian	Gladstone Performance at AISLC 2012	Great Falls	\$375
Carol Barmore	Kenn Backhaus Workshop	Bozeman	\$451
China In Missoula	China In Missoula	Missoula	\$1,000
independDANCE Community Dance Project	independence public event	Bozeman	\$1,000
Bucking Horse Books	International Reading Association Convention 2013	Missoula	\$1,000
Tim Holmes Studio	Body Psalms: The Future Body	Helena	\$1,000
Alpine Artisans	Alpine Artisans, Inc. Tour of the Arts 2012	Seeley Lake	\$1,000
Meghan Bell	Adventurista Designs Training & Business Development	Missoula	\$1,000
Jennifer Combe	Meaningful Making: New Art Education Styles for Montana Art Educators	Missoula	\$1,000
Richard Notkin	RAM Press training/consultant	Helena	\$1,000
Framing Etc/Pondera Arts Council	Photo Collage on Audi Mute panel for Pondera Center	Conrad	\$824

OPPORTUNITIES

Disclaimer: No endorsement is intended or made of any product, service or information either by its inclusion or exclusion from the Opportunities section of the *State of the Arts*. While all attempts are made to ensure the correctness and suitability of information under our control and to correct any errors brought to our attention, no representation or guarantee can be made as to the correctness or suitability of that information or any other linked information presented, referenced or implied. All critical information should be independently verified.

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, State of Montana

Butte Copper City Artists are accepting work for a holiday gift store in the Charles Clark Chateau. Original art and hand-made items ideally focusing on Butte and Montana themes are preferred. Call Marie Marinovich at 406-494-8357 for information and application.

The Virginia City Area Chamber of Commerce invites artists to enter a poster design competition as part of its 2013 summer-long celebration of the 150th anniversary of Virginia City's famous gold discovery. The poster should reflect the theme, which is "sustaining a community living with history." Posters that capture the spirit of this event must fit the dimensions of 18"x24". For information, visit www.virginiacity.com. Submit proposals to Virginia City Area Chamber of Commerce in care of Elling House Arts and Humanities Center, 218 West Wallace St., P.O. Box 104, Virginia City, MT 59755. DEADLINE: Dec. 15, 2012.

The Montana Folk Festival in Butte seeks applications from tribally-affiliated Native American artists and crafters for the second annual First Peoples' Marketplace, July 12-14, 2013. The Montana Traditions Arts Market is one of the largest juried showcases for Native artists in the West. Call 406-565-2249 or visit www.montanafolkfestival.com for an application and information. DEADLINE: March 31, 2013.

The Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings is accepting applications for the 45th annual Art Auction, March 2, 2013. A variety of mediums for auction are sought, including painting, sculpture, ceramics, furniture and jewelry. Call 406-256-6804 ext. 236, email events@artmuseum.org or visit www.artmuseum.org for application. DEADLINE: Oct. 31, 2012.

The Holiday Food and Gift Festival at MetraPark in Billings seeks art, craft and food vendors to showcase their wares at the 27th annual festival, Nov. 17-18. The festival is the largest arts and crafts show of the season; last year, more than 10,000 shoppers attended the two-day show, buying unique products and services offered by more than 250 vendors. Call 406-696-6585 or visit www.holidayfoodandgiftfestival.net for information. DEADLINE: Nov. 1, 2012.

The Clay Studio of Missoula seeks applications for a juried exhibition showcasing ceramic work that addresses "blue." The "Out of the Blue" exhibit will be held Feb. 1-22, 2013. Applications accepted online only at theclaystudiodmissoula.submittable.com/submit. DEADLINE: Nov. 16, 2012.

The Custer County Art and Heritage Center in Miles City announces Ninth Festival of Quilted Wonders entry submissions sought for a show running Nov. 18-Dec. 30. Monetary awards will be given for first, second and third place winners in ten categories. Call 406-234-0635 for further details. DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES AND QUILTS: Nov. 11, 2012.

The Custer County Art and Heritage Center in Miles City seeks entries for the

Want the latest info on opportunities?

Using email, the arts council manages three biweekly information newsletters that provide current and ongoing opportunities. Artists, arts organizations and arts educators each have their own list.

To sign up for any or all of these information tools, email Beck McLaughlin at bemclaughlin@mt.gov or look for the sign-up form on our website and in the newspaper.

34th annual Five State Juried Exhibit that is open to all media. Juried by Maggie Carlson of Bozeman, this event offers cash prizes totaling \$1,000. Exhibit opens Jan. 27, 2013 and continues through March 9, 2013. Artists may submit up to three entries. Approximately 25 works will be selected by the CCAHC staff for an exhibition tour of eastern Montana for the remainder of 2013. Call 406-234-0635 or email ccarte@midrivers.com for further details. DEADLINE: Nov. 29, 2012.

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, National

Orange County Arts and Cultural Affairs in Orlando, FL, is commissioning/purchasing nine large-scale sculptures for permanent placement around downtown Orlando. Budgets range from \$50,000-\$200,000. Call 407-836-5540 or visit www.seeartorlando.com for information and application. DEADLINE: Oct. 31, 2012.

The Northwest Folklife Festival in Seattle, WA, is looking for musicians, dancers, community groups, artists, storytellers and instructors for the 42nd annual festival that will take place May 24-27, 2013 at the Seattle Center. The largest free community arts festival is dedicated to creating opportunities for all people to share in the evolving traditions of the Pacific Northwest. Call 206-684-7300, email programming@nwfolklife.org or visit www.nwfolklife.org for application and information. DEADLINE: Dec. 1, 2012.

Embracing Our Differences invites art submissions for its 10th annual outdoor art exhibit celebrating diversity, to be displayed April and May 2013 at Island Park along Sarasota, Florida's beautiful bay front. Thirty-nine artists will be selected for the exhibit. The exhibit will contain 38 billboard-sized images of the selected artworks. Final selections will be chosen based on artistic excellence in reflection of the theme "embracing our differences." A total of \$3,000 in awards will be presented. Submission forms are available at www.embracingourdifferences.org or by emailing info@embracingourdifferences.org. There is no submission fee or limit on the number of entries. DEADLINE: Jan. 7, 2013.

Workshops/Conferences

The Clay Studio of Missoula offers two family workshops: Nov. 10 (building) and Nov. 17 (glazing). Fee is \$50; call 406-543-0509 to register.

Memoir Writing Workshop in Bozeman, for intermediate and advanced writers, is offered by professional ghostwriter and coauthor Anika Hanisch, 1-4:30 p.m., Nov. 4. Students will receive personalized instruction and review of work-in-progress. Session meets at Congregation Beth Shalom, 2010 West Koch Street. Fee is \$68; call 406-581-9405 for availability.

The Missoula Art Museum offers Open Figure Drawing, Nov. 4, 11 and 18 and Dec. 2, 9 and 16. Other classes include Tempera Batik with Cynthia Laundrie, Nov. 10; a drop-in holiday project, Dec. 1; and Native Bird Ornaments with Samuel Case, Dec. 8. Call 406-728-0447 for details.

Living Art of Montana in Missoula offers "Creativity for Life" workshops for anyone facing illness or loss. November offerings include "Paper Explorations: Remembrance,"

with Patricia Lawrence, Nov. 3; "Indoor Flora" with Odette Grassi, Nov. 10; and "Simple Writing: Hearth" Nov. 17. December's workshops include "Creative Tangents" Dec. 1 and 8; and "Simple Writing: Light and Dark," with Lori Mitchell, Dec. 15. Call 406-549-5329 for information.

The Hockaday Museum in Kalispell opens the museum Nov. 9 and Dec. 14 to adults for a "Paint-in at the Museum." The "Acrylics Unplugged!" workshop with wildlife artist Shelle Lindholm, Nov. 3 and 10, provides exercises that promote discovery of non-traditional forms. Day One will focus on experimentation and creative play. Day Two will focus on participants putting their results into action to develop and complete a finished 8x10-inch acrylic painting. Cost is \$60-\$65. For information, visit www.hockadaymuseum.org or call 406-755-5268.

The Stumptown Art Studio in Whitefish offers mosaic-making workshops with Deb Stika, as part of the "Windows on Whitefish" community mosaic project; dates and times vary. Other workshops include Mandala Painting with Karla Westbrook, Nov. 3; Precious Metal Clay with Kris Kramer, Nov. 5; Family Fun at the Clayground with Stephanie Seguin, Nov. 12 and 26, Dec. 10; Glass Fusing with Melanie Drown, Nov. 14; Canvas and Cocktails with Souheir Rawlings and Susan Guthrie, Nov. 30; and Surface Decorating Pottery: Wax Resist, Impress, Carve, Glaze with Stephanie Seguin, Dec. 3. The Cultural and Art History Club meets with Rosella Mosteller, Nov. 13 (Lucian Freud) and Dec. 13 (Diego Rivera and Frieda Kahlo). Call 406-862-5929 or visit www.stumptownartstudio.org for details.

The Loren Kovich Studio in Montana City offers a two-day watercolor workshop for beginning-to-intermediate students, Nov. 3-4. The classes will emphasize values and composition, primarily in landscapes. For inquiries and registration, call 406-495-9203, e-mail lorenkovich@yahoo.com or visit www.lorenkovich.com.

The Archie Bray Foundation in Helena offers fall adult ceramic classes including "Beginning Ceramics" Tuesdays, through Dec. 11; "Intermediate Ceramics" Tuesdays, through Dec. 11 or Wednesdays, through Dec. 12; and "Advanced Ceramics" Thursdays, through Dec. 13. Call 406-443-3502 or visit www.archiebray.org.

The Red Lodge Clay Center provides a free demonstration workshop with Mary Barringer on Nov. 3 and 4. The editor of *Studio Potter Magazine* will concentrate on surface and form demonstrations. The center also offers the following classes: Thanksgiving Class, a family-oriented tile decorating afternoon, Nov. 10; Clay Musical Instruments, hand-building techniques to produce musical instruments, Nov. 10-24; Fortune Vessels and Molds, Nov. 15-Dec. 20; and Christmas Clay Class with Tanner Coleman, Dec. 8. Call 406-446-3993 or visit www.redlodgeclaycenter.com for information.

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls offers the following fall educational: Drawing for Seniors, Tuesdays (ongoing); Lithography, Mondays, through Dec. 3; Beginning Pottery, Thursdays, through Nov. 15; Wood-Fired Pottery, Tuesdays, through Nov. 13; Advanced Pottery, Mondays, through Nov. 19; Leather Carving, Thursdays, through Nov. 15; and Tai Chi classes offered year-round. Call 406-727-8255 or visit www.the-square.org for details.



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Preservation Alliance hosts website

The Montana Preservation Alliance – an all-volunteer organization committed to preserving Montana's historical resources – has launched a website at www.preservemontana.org.

In addition to information about the alliance, which is headquartered in Helena, the site lists upcoming meetings and links to state and national sources of preservation information.

MPA also produces a membership newsletter, holds public meetings, and helps raise public awareness of Montana's fragile cultural heritage while promoting a broad range of historic preservation activities.

In addition, MPA offers technical assistance on preservation-related issues and conducts in-depth weekend workshops that focus on heritage tourism, downtown revitalization, local historical preservation planning and other related topics.

Continued on next page

National arts resources

• National Endowment for the Arts: 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-682-5400; www.artsendow.gov; email: webmgr@arts.endow.gov.

• National Endowment for the Humanities: 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-606-8400; www.neh.fed.us.

• Arts 4 All People: www.arts4allpeople.org; email: a4ap@wallacefunds.org.

• Americans for the Arts: 1000 Vermont Ave. NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20005; 202-371-2830; www.artusa.org.

• American Association of Museums: 1571 Eye St. NW, Ste. 400, Washington, DC 20005; 202-289-1818; www.aam-us.org.

• National Trust for Historic Preservation: 1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202-588-6000; www.nationaltrust.org.

• ADA Services Unit: U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1801 L St. NW, Rm. 9024, Washington, DC 20507; 202-663-4900 or 800-669-4000 for employment questions; www.eeoc.gov/facts.

• New York Foundation for the Arts: 155 Avenue of the Americas, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10013-1507; 212-366-6900; www.nyfa.org.

• Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board: 1331 F St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004; 800-872-2253; www.access-board.gov.

• National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC): 800-346-2742 or 800-344-5405 for assistive technology product information.

Grants

The Institute of Museum and Library Services offers two assessment programs: the **Museum Assessment Program (MAP)** provides support to museums to assess their strengths and weaknesses and plan for the future. Types of assessment include organizational and institutional, collections stewardship and management, and community engagement and public dimension. And the **Conservation Assessment Program (CAP)** provides support to professional conservators to identify conservation priorities. Eligible applicants include museums, aquariums, zoos, gardens, science centers and historical sites. Visit www.imls.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=10. DEADLINE: Dec. 1, 2012.

Museums Connect: Building Global Communities, an initiative of the American Alliance of Museums, is designed to strengthen connections and cultural understanding between people in the U.S. and abroad through collaborative and innovative projects facilitated by museums, as well as strengthen ties between museums and their communities. The following themes have been selected for the program's 2013 grant cycle: Adapting to Changing Demographics, Investing in Green Practices, Promoting Disability Rights and Engagement, Developing Amateur Experts and Addressing Community Challenges. Grants range from \$50,000-\$100,000. Visit www.aam-us.org/resources/international/museumsconnect/ for details. STATEMENT OF INTENT TO PROPOSE DEADLINE: Jan. 31, 2013; final applications are due April 8, 2013.

The Montana Department of Commerce, Entrepreneur Development Program, is accepting applications for the Indian Equity Program by enrolled members of Montana tribes. Two recipients from each of the tribes may receive up to \$7,000 each to fund either a business start-up or to grow their business. The money can be used for a variety of activities, such as the purchase of new equipment or the development of a new product line. Call Philip Belangie at 406-721-3663 or email pbelangie@mt.gov for more information. DEADLINE: Nov. 26, 2012.

Adolf and Esther Gottlieb Foundation announces Individual Support grants available to artists with a minimum of 20 years in a mature phase; grant amounts are determined each year. A separate grant program, for emergencies, assists artists suffering from catastrophic circumstances (fire, flood, medical emergency), who have a minimum of ten years in a mature phase; grant amounts range up to \$10,000 depending on the need and circumstances of the individual applicant. A written request for applications is required; contact Gottlieb Foundation, 380 West Broadway, New York, NY 10012. View gottliebfoundation.org/grants for information. DEADLINE: Dec. 15, 2012.

The Archer Daniels Midland Company's ADM Cares program supports nonprofit organizations in company communities around the world that drive meaningful social, economic and environmental progress. The program provides grant support in the following focus areas: promoting agricultural development, sound environmental practices, education for children and young adults, and maintaining a vibrant community. Preference is given to groups in ADM communities that can demonstrate clear, measurable results toward stated objectives and a solid track

record of success. Online applications may be submitted at any time at www.adm.com (go to the Community Giving dropdown under Our Company).

The Cultural Exchange Fund, an initiative of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters, is a travel subsidy program that assists U.S.-based presenters in building partnerships with international touring artists, companies and their collaborators. The focus of the program is on increasing presenters' knowledge of international performing artists based outside the U.S. and the cultural context for these artists' work. In promoting cross-cultural arts programming, travel to the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and Africa is strongly encouraged. The maximum amount awarded per individual organization or artist is \$2,000. Group travel subsidies of three or more presenters are also available, with the maximum award of \$10,000.

All applicants must be members of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. Applications must be submitted online at www.apap365.org. DEADLINE: Nov. 16, 2012.

Performing Arts

The Venture Theatre in Billings is looking for artists to perform original works in the first annual Billings Fringe Festival taking place Jan. 18, 19, 25 and 26. All performing arts are eligible including one-act plays, performance art, puppetry, musicals, group or individual improv, stand-up comedy, dance, spoken word and poetry. For information and to download an application, visit www.venturetheatre.org/performances/venture-theatres-fringe-festival. DEADLINE: Nov. 2, 2012.

The Montana Association of Symphony Orchestras has opened the application process for the Young Artist Competition (YAC), a biennial event with the purpose to recognize and encourage the musical talent of young Montanans. The event will be held Jan. 12, 2013, in Bozeman. Students between the ages of 13 through 22 who play any of the standard orchestral instruments are encouraged to apply. Visit www.montanasymphonies.org/competition.htm for details. DEADLINE: Nov. 1, 2012.

The Great American Song Contest, open to songwriters, lyricists and music composers everywhere, is designed for amateur and semi-pro songwriters only. An entry fee of \$30 is required for each song entered; the limit is 10 songs per entrant (the same song may be entered in multiple categories). This contest emphasizes networking and educational benefits; and a written evaluation is guaranteed for everyone who participates. For information, visit www.greatamericansong.com. DEADLINE: Oct. 31, 2012.

Job Opportunities

The University of Montana Western in Dillon seeks a one-semester, one-half time drama instructor with one-half duties as a theatre facility technical coordinator. While not assured, continued employment in future years is a strong possibility. Duties include teaching two introductory theatre courses per semester and approximately 20 hours per week with flexible hours managing the theatre scene shop and two newly renovated theatres. The successful

applicant will manage technical aspects of department productions and student design and construction projects of sets, lighting and sound. The employee will cooperate with existing full- and part-time faculty in coordinating drama minors in B.A. and B.S. degree programs, and will cooperate with the organizers and staff of local community concert visiting artist series. The successful candidate will hold a M.A. or M.S. in theatre with an emphasis in technical, and must have strong communication and organizational skills. Candidates with teaching and work experiences in technical theatre are strongly preferred as are those with a record of interacting well with others. Visit www.umwestern.edu/jobs/instructor-of-dramatheatre-facility-technical-coordinator for application requirements. DEADLINE: will continue until position is filled.

The Tower Theatre Foundation of Bend, OR, seeks a director of development who will be responsible for leading and managing all aspects of a comprehensive revenue-generating program for the foundation. Working for the executive director and with the development committee of the board, the development director will identify opportunities, develop and execute detailed strategies and goals, on an annual and multi-year basis, for contributed income. Responsibilities include: providing day-to-day management of membership drives, major gift solicitations, special campaigns and events, program and event sponsorships, stewardship and donor relations and prospect acquisition; organizing the work of volunteer teams, the development committee and board of directors, and managing their relationships to increase revenue; facilitating educational outreach efforts; providing leads and ideas for business development and venue rental; and designing and managing approaches to capitalize on available ticketing/donor data. Call 406-541-420-8904 or e-mail ray@towertheatre.org to apply.

Residencies

The Red Lodge Clay Center offers two residency options: year-long residencies Sept. 1-July 31; and short-term, proposal-based residencies ranging from one to eight weeks, are considered Sept. 1-May 31. The long-term residency is ideal for committed individuals in transition from post baccalaureate studies to graduate school, as well as those pursuing the development of professional artistic careers. Accepted residents will be provided with studio space, housing, utilities and a monthly stipend in exchange for twenty hours of work per week at the Clay Center. Residents will be responsible for personal living expenses, as well as all material and firing expenses. The short-term residencies are ideal for ceramic artists who are working to complete a special project requiring one to eight weeks' time. Accepted short-term residents are provided with studio space and 24-hour access to the studio. Fully furnished apartments are available for \$450 per month or a prorated basis congruent with the scheduled residency. Short-term residents will be responsible for personal living expenses, as well as all material and firing expenses. Apply online at www.redlodgeclaycenter.com. For more information, call 406-446-3993 or email residencies@redlodgeclaycenter.com. DEADLINES: long-term residency, Feb. 1, 2013; short-term residency, May 1, 2013.

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MAC GRANTS & SERVICES

Artist's Innovation Awards

The Montana Arts Council launched this awards program to honor the innovative ideas, practices and the contributions of Montana artists. This application can only be completed online. The next deadline will be in 2013.

Artists in Schools/Communities Grants

The Arts Education program contains three distinct components which provide participatory experiences in arts learning that increase or strengthen participants' knowledge and skills in the arts.

1. Artist visits: The artist visits program encompasses visits lasting from one to four days with no more than four hours of contact time per day.

2. Residencies: Short-term residencies last one to four weeks, or a total of five to 20 days over a longer period of time. Long-term residencies are residencies of five weeks or longer, up to one year.

3. Special projects: This funding broadly supports the creation of projects that establish, expand, or advance both school curriculum and educational arts programming. Projects that support and encourage the community's lifelong learning, appreciation and enjoyment of the arts are also funded.

The Montana Arts Council awards grants to Montana organizations that are nonprofit and exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a), which include the 501(c)(3) designation of the Internal Revenue Code, or are units of government, educational institutions, or local chapters of tax-exempt national organizations.

Deadlines are ongoing. To apply, visit MAC's website at <http://art.mt.gov> or call the MAC Arts Education Hotline at 800-282-3092.

Arts Education Artist Registry

The Arts Education program supports a wide range of residencies by professional working artists and local or regional arts organizations (touring or locally based). Activities are hands-on and process-oriented. The artist must be able to clearly communicate the concepts and skills of the chosen art form and relate well to people in a variety of educational settings.

Deadlines are ongoing. To apply visit MAC's website at <http://art.mt.gov> or call the MAC Arts Education Hotline at 800-282-3092.

Cultural and Aesthetic Project Grants

In 1975, the Montana Legislature set aside a percentage of the Coal Tax to restore murals in the Capitol and support other cultural and aesthetic projects. Grant funds are derived from the interest earned on this Cultural Trust.

Any person, association, group, or government agency may apply. All applications must, however, be officially sponsored by a governmental entity. Requirements include a 1:1 match in cash or in-kind goods and services for Special Projects Under \$4,500, Special Projects and Operational Support. Capital expenditures require a 3:1 match of cash or in-kind goods and services. This application can only be completed online – go to MAC's website at <http://art.mt.gov>. The application deadline is August 1, 2014 for FY 2016-2017.

Montana's Circle of American Masters

Montana's Circle of American Masters in Visual Folk and Traditional Arts celebrates the contributions of Montana's master artists. A member of Montana's Circle of American Masters is a person who throughout their lifetime of work in the traditional arts has created a notable body of work. Of significant cultural and artistic stature, their work is representative of the historic, traditional, and innovative arts and handcrafts distinctive to the state and is worthy of note on both a state and national level. Deadlines for this program are ongoing. For nomination materials, visit the MAC website at http://art.mt.gov/artists/artists_masters.asp or contact Cindy Kittredge at elkittredge@dishmail.net or phone her at 406-468-4078.

Public Value Partnerships

The Montana Arts Council is pleased to continue operating support grants for Montana non-profit arts organizations under a program titled Public Value Partnerships. Public value partners are defined as organizations making a positive difference in the individual and collective lives of the citizens of the state through the arts, and worthy of state investment.

These grants fund Montana non-profit arts organizations who have had their 501(c)(3) status for a minimum of five years and at least a half-time paid staff member. Current guidelines are available on the MAC website. The current grant period runs from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2014. The next round of grant applications will be due in Spring 2014. Visit <http://art.mt.gov> for more information.

Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts

Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts are given throughout the year to provide funds for:

- Training and Network Development opportunities that help build art skills, healthy arts careers and businesses.
- Market Expansion to help increase exposure and improve marketing or promotion, opportunities for exhibition or performance and sales.
- Public Outreach Arts Activities for ongoing and one-time arts activities by arts organizations and artists that help firmly anchor the arts in the greater community.
- Challenges and Emergencies to provide assistance for artists or arts organizations experiencing catastrophic-level emergencies that threaten their ability to continue their work, and demand prompt and immediate attention.

Artists, 501(c)(3) arts organizations and Pre K-12 teachers are eligible to apply. 1:1 matching grants are available up to \$1,000 and decisions will be dictated by the availability of funds and the nature of the requests. Awards are made directly by the council and applications are reviewed monthly.

This application can only be completed online – go to MAC's website at www.art.mt.gov. The application deadline is the 15th of the month (or first business day after the 15th if that falls on a weekend).

T.E.A., Teacher Exploration of the Arts

This grant program is for elementary classroom teachers who wish to work one-on-one with a professional working artist in order to develop the teacher's skill in a particular artistic discipline. Deadlines are ongoing. You must apply at least six weeks in advance of the start-date of your project. A cash match is not required. All grants are for \$500.



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Help us find technical assistance articles for State of the Arts

The Montana Arts Council is requesting submissions from artists and organizations on practical professional development tips for artists for upcoming issues of *State of the Arts*.

Topics might include:

- "How to" articles (i.e. marketing tips for the beginning visual artist, how to find a publisher for your first book, doing your own PR, writing an effective artist statement or how to make a CD).
- Innovative arts education projects or statistics.

Upcoming deadlines are: Nov. 25 for the January/February issue and Jan. 25 March/April issue.

Please limit submissions to 500 words. Call MAC at 406-444-6510 or email mac@mt.gov before submitting stories.

ARTS & CULTURE: Statewide Service Organizations

Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022; www.humanitiesmt.org. Presents humanities programs, awards grants, conducts speakers bureau, reading/discussion groups and teacher programs.

MT Art Education Assn., President: Marvin Pauls; mpauls@mcp.k12.mt.us; www.maaamt.org. Provides professional information and development for art teachers in all areas.

MT Arts, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Provides administrative services for statewide organizations and some local groups and acts as a fiscal agent for emerging arts organizations.

MT Assn. of Symphony Orchestras, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551; www.montanasymphonies.org. Provides resource sharing, imports musicians and conducts seminars and conferences.

MT Center for the Book, c/o Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022, ask for Ken Egan. Organizes public forums featuring Montana authors; and promotes reading, book arts and publishing.

MT China Painting Art Assn., 1202 Hauser Blvd., Helena, MT 59601; 406-442-9504. Promotes the art of china painting, porcelain and glass; sponsors a yearly public show featuring nationally known teachers.

MT Community Foundation, 1 N. Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1, Helena, MT 59601; 406-443-8313; mctf@mt.net; www.mctf.org. Maintains endowments for nonprofit organizations and awards grants.

MT Cultural Advocacy, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Coalition of arts and cultural agencies that lobbies the state legislature to maintain funding of cultural agencies and oversees legislation affecting Montana's cultural sector.

MT Dance Arts Assn., PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Sponsors a fall and spring workshop for young Montana dancers, administers a summer scholarship program and presents a summer teachers' workshop.

MT Institute of the Arts, c/o Ron Paulick, 708 56th St. So., Great Falls, MT; 406-453-4076. Assists artists in all disciplines through educational projects, information, and workshops.

MT Music Educators Assn., Nancy Murdock, PO Box 55, Whitewater, MT 59544; 406-674-5417 (O); [nmurdock@ttc-cmc.net](mailto:nmurdoch@ttc-cmc.net). Provides professional information and development for music teachers in all areas.

MT Painters Alliance, Susan Blackwood and Howard Friedland, 711 Blackmore Place, Bozeman, MT 59715; 406-586-4484. A statewide organization comprised of professional outdoor painters who seek to showcase the vast variety and spectacular beauty of Montana.

MT Performing Arts Consortium, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551; www.mtperformingarts.org. Supports performing arts presenting in large and small communities; sponsors an annual conference showcasing performing arts; facilitates block-booking; and provides quick-grants to rural presenters.

MT Preservation Alliance, 516 N. Park, Suite A, Helena, MT 59601; 406-457-2822; www.preservemontana.org. Provides technical assistance and information on historic preservation issues through a circuit rider program. Publishes *Preservation Montana*.

MT Public Television Assn., PO Box 503, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645; 406-547-3803; Supports efforts of Montana's rural low power public television stations; provides technical assistance in video production and station application procedures and sponsors an annual conference.

MT Theatre Education Assn. (MTEA), President Larry Brazill, 9 N. Dakota, Dillon, MT 59725; 406-683-7038; l_brazill@umwestern.edu. A K-12 education

resource for Montana theatre educators; present yearly at MEA-MFT/APT and are affiliated with EDTA.

MT Thespians, State Director, Sarah DeGrandpre, Big Sky High School, 3100 South Ave. West, Missoula, MT 59804; 406-728-2401; sdegrandpre@mcp.k12.mt.us. Provides professional information and development for theater teachers in all areas.

MT Watercolor Society, PO Box 3002, Missoula, MT 59807; Sally Angove, membership chair, 406-442-4657; sangove@bresnan.net; www.montanawatercolorociety.org. Sponsors two annual workshops, a yearly Open Members show, a national Juried Watermedia Exhibition, and a quarterly newsletter.

Museum and Art Gallery Directors Assn., 2112 First Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401; 406-761-1797; montanaart@bresnan.net; www.mt-magda.org. Supports visual art centers and galleries through traveling exhibitions, technical assistance and an annual conference.

Museums Assn. of Montana, MT Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts, Helena, MT 59620; 406-444-4710; www.montanamuseums.org. Supports museums of all disciplines through annual conferences, quarterly newsletters and technical assistance with museum issues.

Rocky Mountain Photo Club, 1518 Howell St., Missoula, MT 59802; 406-728-5374. Provides photography education, professional information, workshops and opportunities for members to show work in galleries.

VSA Montana, PO Box 7225, Missoula, MT 59807; 406-549-2984; www.vsamontana.org. Provides information, technical assistance and workshops on working with differently-abled constituencies.

Writer's Voice of the Billings Family YMCA, 402 N. 32nd St., Billings, MT 59101; 406-248-1685. Assists emerging writers in artistic and professional development; supports accomplished writers; provides public programs that challenge the traditional definition of literary arts.



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STATE OF THE

Arts



Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) artists launch at the Western Design Conference, Jackson, WY, 2012. The work of 32 MAP artists was presented. (Marti de Alva, photographer)

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V: 406-444-6430; T:711
Fax 406-444-6548
Arts Ed Hotline 1-800-282-3092
<http://art.mt.gov>
email: mac@mt.gov

Address Services Requested

Montana Arts Council
Jackie Parsons, Chairman, PO Box 589, Browning, MT 59417
Cynthia Andrus, Vice Chairman,
3247 Garden Brook Ln., Bozeman, MT 59715
Corky Clairmont, 33608 Emory Rd., Ronan, MT 59864
JP Gabriel, 6655 Falcon Lane #6, Bozeman, MT 59718
Mark Kuipers, 4770 Duncan Dr., Missoula, MT 59802
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Kathleen Schlepp, 914 S. Custer, Miles City, MT 59301
Allen Secher, 955 Northwoods, Whitefish, MT 59937
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Judy Ulrich, 4 Elm Dr., Dillon, MT 59725
Jane Waggoner Deschner, 635 N. 26th St., Billings, MT 59101
Wilbur Wood, PO Box 12, Roundup, MT 59072

MAC Staff

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director
afishbaugh@mt.gov • 406-444-6430
Carleen Layne, Accountant
clayne@mt.gov • 406-444-6489
Cinda Holt, Business Development Specialist
choilt@montana.com • 406-777-0090
Cindy Kittredge, Folk Arts & Market Development Specialist
mtcreativearts@gmail.com • 406-468-4078
Kim Baraby Hurtle, Percent-For-Art Director
khurtle@mt.gov • 406-444-6430
Kristin Han Burgoyne, Database & Grants Director,
Accessibility Coordinator
kburgoyne@mt.gov • 406-444-6449
Beck McLaughlin, Education & Web Services Director
bemclaughlin@mt.gov • 406-444-6522
KarenDe Herman, Administrative Specialist
kherman2@mt.gov • 406-444-4700

Busy fall for Montana Artrepreneur Program

Pages 1 and 20

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State of Montana programs are available to all Montanans. Upon request, an alternative accessible format will be provided. Call 406-444-6449

November/December 2012